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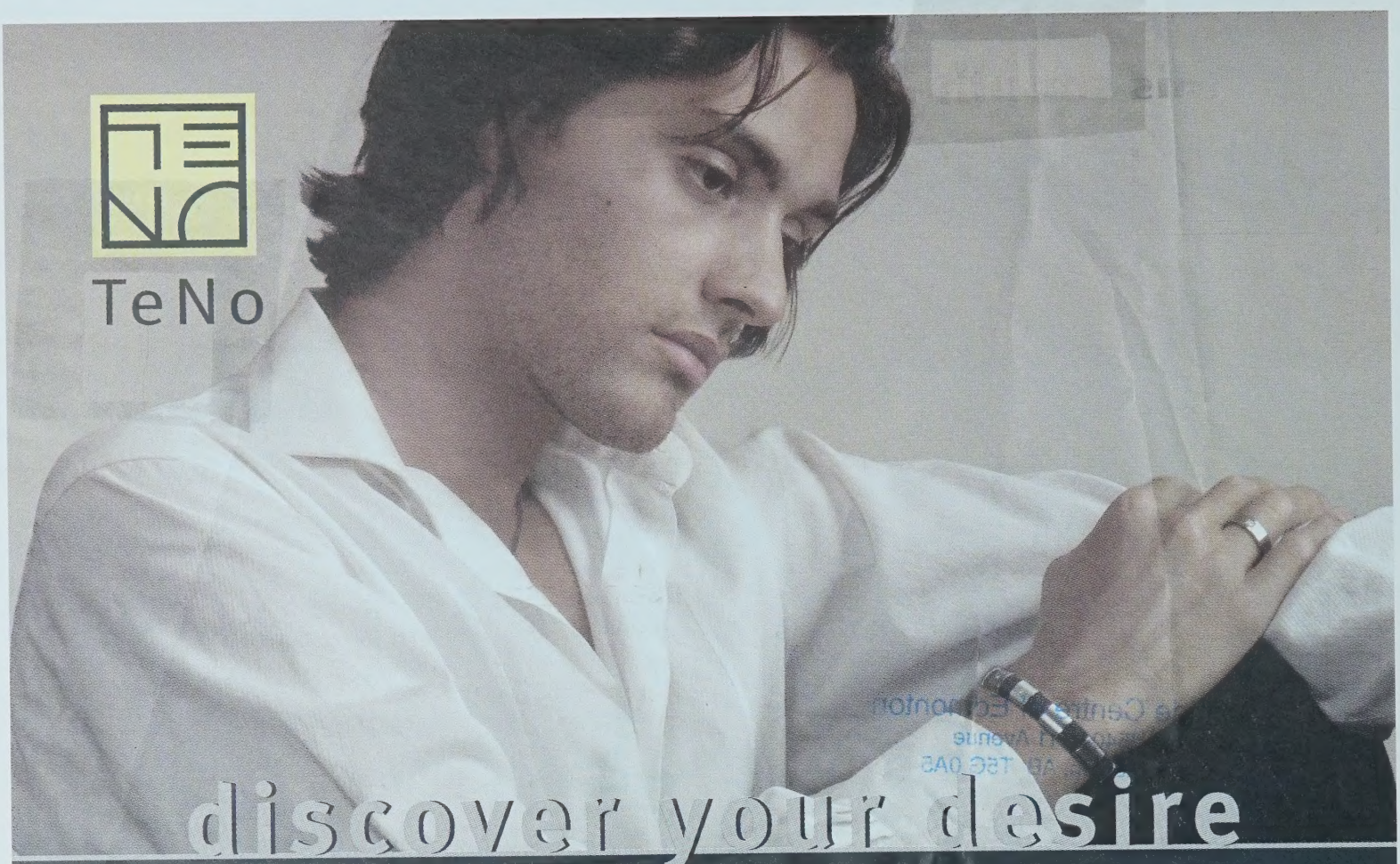

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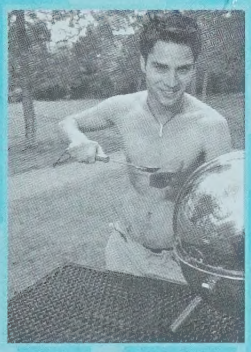

On The Cover:
Michael photographed in Connaught Park by Terence Leung
Tabletop barbeque graciously provided by IKEA

what's where

SEE YOU SOON!

The words "Oh, Canada" will be on passenger lips as Rosie and Kelli O'Donnell's cruise sets sail for Nova Scotia this month. *Outlooks* contributor Ralph Higgins talks to Gregg Kaminsky, of rFamily Cruises, about the ship's first foray into a Canadian port.

Photo of Rosie and Kelli O'Donnell courtesy of Bruce Gilkas

BAR-B-QUEER

So what if cooking in the great outdoors has a distinctly "hetero" feel to it—when lamburgers, roasted sweet potatoes and grilled asparagus with strawberry sauce is on the menu, there's no mistaking a new classic in "family" meals.

THE *REAL* FINISH LINE

After a gruelling stint on U.S. network television, *Amazing Race 7* alums Lynn and Alex stepped into a spotlight of their very own—to say "I do" in our nation's capital. Dale Smith talks to the newly-weds about family, fame and their future.

July 2005

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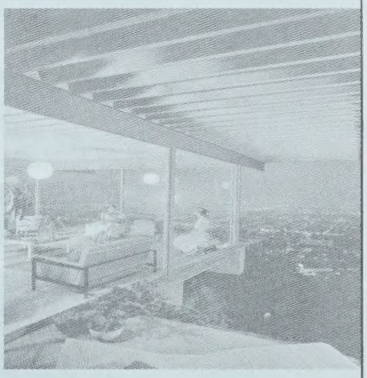

Change is good.

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Broad brushstrokes

By John Coulbourn

It wasn't all that long ago (although it feels like eons) that a well-intentioned straight friend of mine looked across the table at me and intoned: "Sooner or later, you guys are going to have to take a firm stand on pedophilia."

In view of the fact that our conversation up to that point had revolved around mutual friends, the shows we'd seen and the places we'd been since our last meeting, it was hardly surprising that it took me a while to figure out just who he meant by 'you guys' and just why we were going to have to figure out where we stood on *anything*.

But finally, the penny dropped.

The 'you guys' in question were, of course, members of the gay community—and what my liberal friend was suggesting, in his way, was that the next time we gays met in secret cabal to decide on the important things like the length of skirts, the cool colours for interior design and the *ne plus ultra* in window treatments—all the things 'us guys' are so good at—we should take a minute to figure out just where we stand on intergenerational sex.

And frankly, judging from the stern look that accompanied the instruction, it was pretty clear that the only side on which to stand was to say, as a community, that we guys rejected it out of hand.

Any other point of view, the reasoning seemed to run, would simply confirm our critics' desire to keep us outside the tent of respectable company—a place my friend assumed (with a certainty that was nothing if not charming) that we were all simply dying to find for ourselves.

In the intervening years, I am sorry to say, we guys haven't really done too well in following his instructions—or if we have, my invitation to the particular coven in which it was all discussed went astray in the mail, assuming, of course, that I was invited in the first place. Lord knows, it could have all occurred in the wake of one of my numerous expulsions from the gay community, wrought by any of those self-appointed gay thought police who seem determined to keep us all on the same page in the land o' lavender. To that end, they dismiss any disagreement with their chosen points of view with a disdainful sniff and the assurance that "If that's the way you feel, you've got no right to call yourself gay".

But I digress. Regardless of the fact that we have failed miserably at following my friend's instructions, our conversation has been much on my mind of late—not that I've suddenly developed a burning passion for twinkies, I hasten to add. As an Albertan born (if not often bred) I'm happily familiar with the virtues of a prime cut of beef that has been well and properly aged.

No, what's been bringing that long-ago conversation to mind is the behaviour of the Christian right—or perhaps I should say, the misbehaviour of same—as they plumb new depths in their struggle to cloak their determination to preach hatred with a smokescreen of concern for protecting the institution of marriage.

And I find myself wanting to say to my friends in the Christian community—and yes, there are still more than a few: "Sooner or later, you guys are going to have to take a stand on bigotry".

Of course, it's not that I think my Christian friends are into the kind of bigotry that is being preached by these zealots, any more than my friend thought I was 'into' young boys when he made his comment.

But I know instinctively, in the same way that my friend did, that when part of a community behaves with an appalling and apparent disregard for the rights of others and the law of the land, it can't help but reflect on the whole community.

It's not fair and it's not right but, frankly, as we in the gay community know all too well, fairness and rightness aren't terribly powerful weapons in the ongoing fight against injustice.

And in the same way that the gay community has had to fight over the past decades to divorce itself from the stigma of pedophilia, so too, I suspect, is the broad Christian community going to have to fight to divorce itself from the stigma of bigotry in the years ahead.

Once same-sex marriage has become the law of the land across the land, and the world continues to revolve on its axis, a lot of people, both gay and straight, are certain to remember the often vicious rhetoric that opponents of same-sex marriage have used.

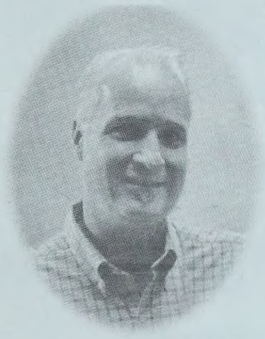
And when they remember it, they will remember it as the *Christian* point of view, simply because that is how it has been presented and few have bothered to deny it.

In the same way that we had to learn to stand up and say to certain activists in the gay community: "You do not speak for me", Christians are going to have to learn to stand up and say the same to the zealots who want to keep certain segments of our society as their personal whipping boys.

Fortunately for most of them, however, they live in a broader world that is often far more forgiving than the Christian community in which they dwell. Thanks to the intolerance of the radical few within that community, those who live outside the Christian community have a lot more experience at turning the other cheek than do most Christians. ▼

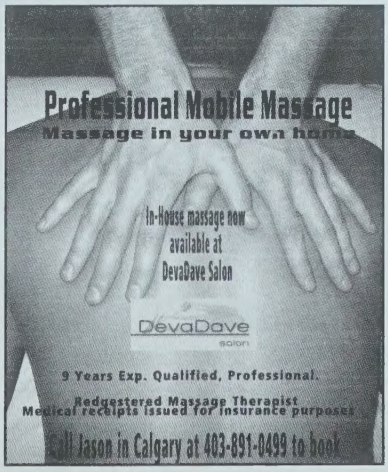
John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.

Russell Pullishy
Nov. 20, 1963 - May 16, 2005



Because of you, I love a little more.
Because of you, I take time
to give an extra kiss goodbye.
Because of you, I have a favourite song.
Because of you, there may be dust on the window sill, but I don't care.

Because of you, I live today,
before I worry about tomorrow.
Because of you, I don't give up quite as fast.
Because of you, I still believe in rainbows.
Because of you, now I can help or listen more.
Because of you, today I am me.



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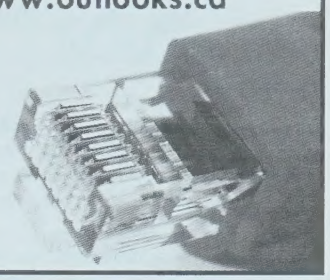

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Gay links

By Ben Benedict

London is a sports town, still coming off the high of Junior Hockey's Memorial Cup and gearing up for the 2005 World Transplant Games. Sports are not the 'hetero-only' world that it used to be, as more and more sports figures continue to come out. London's gay community is somewhere in between.

This is the drive behind the creation of "London Gay Golf League", which for lack of a better name, I'm calling "OUT on the Greens", says John Reinhardt, Webmaster and Director of the London and Area Gay Directory (LGD). Although not a golfer himself, Mr. Reinhardt was quick to volunteer as the league's "official ball washer and stroke-enhancement coach."

The group was initiated when members of the community began e-mailing Reinhardt to inquire if such a group existed. "I started [LGD] in April of 2004 when the Homophile Association of London Ontario [HALO] decided to discontinue their website," he says. "I keep adding more areas to my site, but have focused on providing basic helpful information for members of the gay community."

The LGD website provides listings of gay-owned and/or friendly businesses, gay groups for entire communities, including ones at UWO and Fanshawe, listings of events, geared specifically to the gay, free classified ads, Help Line information, and copies of newsletters from the various gay groups. His site has become a beacon within the community for individuals looking to connect socially with other gays and lesbians.

There were three information sessions to determine the feasibility of a golf group aimed at the community. "I think one of the objectives was to provide and protect the opportunity for individuals, who support the bonds of gay fellowship, to play golf and socialize in an atmosphere of friendly competition, free of discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, sex, ability, and sexual orientation,"Reinhardt says.

"I have joked that, when I went to see The Foursome at the Grand Theatre, I had expected it to be set in a bathhouse. But it was about four guys out on a golf course," Reinhardt laughs. "The script for that play, if truly indicative of what really takes place, is why there needed to be a group for gays."

"The group does not have membership fees. It began with just over thirty players who originally signed up in March, but many more have since joined the group," he continues. " The Llyndinshire Golf and Country Club has been the main course of choice, but Twin Streams Golf Course is a close runner-up. Because of the cost, several meet for more frequent OUTings at the various City of London courses."

Gale Rule, owner of Absolute Mail Solutions, has also formed a group. Hers is for women who are at the early stages of golf play and its creation was motivated in part by the development of the league. This social group was developed for "any women who didn't have clubs or are just starting out," Rule says. "A lot of women didn't want [to join the league] because they feel others are professional."

"We've been out a couple of times. It's a kind of learning thing,"Rule says of her group. The focus is to "practice on the driving range, learn the clubs and learn golf etiquette."

There has been a gay golf league in various forms for many years," says Sylvie Lebrun. "We started with the Gays and Lesbians of Old South (GLOS) by golfing at different golf courses, to spending a few years at Twin Streams and going back to different golf courses."

While the current incarnation "has remained 'closeted'—not openly booking the tee times for OUT on the Greens"—Reinhardt says their numbers are growing.

So, if you're in the area and looking for someone to play a round of golf with, check out the league or one of the many gay sports groups in London (see below). ▼

Gay/lesbian Golf League—sign up for this new group directly through the webmaster for the London and Area Gay Directory http://lgd.homestead.com/groups.html or by emailing John Reinhardt directly at LGDirectory@yahoo.ca

Gays and Lesbians of Old South (GLOS)—http://commplus.net/glos

Free Gay Sports League—Every Sunday at 5 p.m. until mid-November at Harris Park. For more info, call Julie at (519) 521-2345 or e-mail her at: ilovepeach295@hotmail.com

London GLB (Gay Lesbian and Bisexual) Bowlers:

http://members.rogers.com/lsa2bowling/bowling.html

http://members.rogers.com/lint/lintmain.html

Ben Benedict, a recognized professional visual artist, arts journalist and critic, business writer, and public relations consultant within the London region. He is owner and founder of Benedict Creative Communications and can be reached via www.bcreative.ca.

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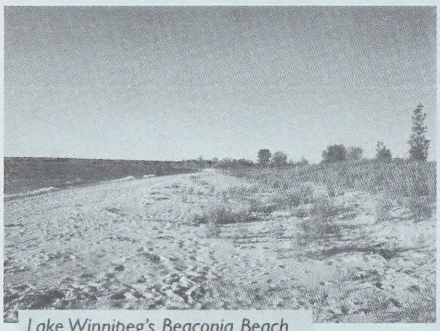
Beaconia: wild 'n' free

By Peter Carlyle-Gordge

Summertime and the living *ought* to be easy. Spring has been damp enough in Manitoba for the populace to wonder why evolution didn't perhaps equip them with webbed feet. Hopefully the longed-for, hazy, lazy days of summer will quickly erase soggy, bad-tempered memories. Escaping from the city on those hot, blue-sky days of July and August is a beacon of hope through the long days of winter. And, for the GLBT community, one summer magnet is Beaconia Beach, about seventy kilometres north of Winnipeg along Highway 59. Beaconia is set on Lake Winnipeg next to Patricia Beach, a provincial park.



Lake Winnipeg's Beaconia Beach, pictured here sans "wildlife"

It is really a sandy island joined to the mainland by a causeway, which is the road into the beach from Highway 59. Behind the beach is a large, marshy lagoon noted for its abundant birdlife. Pelicans, seagulls, blue herons, the rare piping plover and geese of all kinds gather on the mud flats in this ornithological paradise.

But it is something of a paradise for humans, too. There is ample beach space and Beaconia is rarely if ever crowded. It is also totally non-commercial, offering no concession stands, no washrooms and not even any garbage containers, though most beach users are careful to take their garbage home or bury it.

Beaconia attracts both straights and gays as well as families with children. It also attracts nudists. There is an unwritten rule that the first 800 metres of beach area is designated "non-nudist", and that families and children are the main users. However, *after* the first 800 metres the beach widens out and the nudist area begins. And if you keep on walking you are likely to run into a mainly gay, largely nudist stretch, which narrows to a strip of sand that can be less than thirty metres wide, depending on winds and lake levels.

In the past, nudists usually had to stay out of site behind the many bushes. If they saw park officials they would quickly dress, then undress again, once they had gone away. But today there is an attitude of live and let live and officials generally don't interfere, provided there is no lewd behaviour in public view. There are plenty of hidden, bushy areas for those inclined to sexy trysts.

A few years ago, trouble flared up when a redneck band of homophobic and anti-nudity people from Beaconia village tried to pass a bylaw banning all nudity. That failed, so they tried to get a lease on the beach so they could control it, but the courts threw that out as well. The village people have some say over the first 800 metres of beach but none beyond it. For now, controversy has died down and people generally respect the limits of their own 'section' of the beach, thus allowing peaceful coexistence.

Winnipegger Brent McVean loves to escape from the city for a few hours in summer and says Beaconia is ideal. When the local villagers were creating a fuss and trying to ban nudity, McVean actually sent a written intervention. He grew up in Nova Scotia, has travelled widely and wanted to know why such a commotion was being raised about nude beaches, which are very common in Europe and other parts of North America.

"I love to swim in the lake in the nude and it's a peaceful, beautiful place to get away to," he says. "It's rarely crowded and you meet people from all over. I've met men from across Canada, as well as from Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom at Beaconia. Once I took a friend from Seattle there—a professional photographer. He loved it and posed some tasteful pictures of me in the nude. I'm happy to say they were the only pictures from here that sold when he got home!"

McVean says it's a great place for gays, lesbians *and* straight people, nude or otherwise.

"They all have a niche on the beach and the nice thing is that people respect Nature and take their garbage away," he says. "I once got up really early one fine summer day and drove up there. I was the only person there that early and just sat listening to the birds and enjoying the beauty of the day."

Winnipeg gay marriage commissioner Don Bowler, who is also a chef, loves to escape from hot kitchens and spend the day having a beer; a picnic and a nude sunbathe at the beach. He often drives up with friends and can be there in an hour. "You can just kick your clothes off, relax and be yourself," he says. "We have a few drinks, a wiener roast and a swim. You also get to see some very good-looking young men there. I once ran into two stunning guys who had come all the way from Paris, France."

Richard Frans is another gay man who adores Beaconia. He lives in Portage la Prairie but previously operated a tanning salon in Winnipeg. He used to enjoy taking his dog Sheba for walks on the beach. She was very popular and had unbounded energy: "One day she was in the bushes not too far from where I was talking to this nude gentleman," recalls Frans. "Suddenly Sheba came flying out of the bushes without warning and knocked the guy flat on his ass. I was shocked at first but saw how funny it looked with this guy being totally naked and sprawled out in the sand. I burst out laughing and couldn't stop."

Beaconia is a great place to meet up with gay friends as well as to make new ones. Some actually bring tents and camp overnight but rowdiness is rare and beach lovers want to keep it that way. Beaconia is an oasis of peace for the harried and hassled.

Some may recall the movie *Sleepless In Seattle*. One beach wag was once heard urging that a movie be made at this pristine, unspoiled bit of paradise. The title, he suggested dryly, might be *Bareassed In Beaconia*. Sound good to you? Visitors are always welcome... ▼

Peter Carlyle-Gordge is a former Manitoba correspondent for* Maclean's *and* The Financial Post. *He has written for most major magazines and newspapers in Canada as well as broadcasting on the national and international networks of CBC Radio.

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Mistress of Ceremonies Pussy Willow offers a bit of 'ditz' in keeping with her "platinum persona".

Tastes Like Chicken...
Kelly Wilts indulges in a few licks for kicks with Velvet Steele's stiletto.

You Lookin' At Me?
And how! Mr. Vancouver Leather contestant and unrelenting hottie Dennis struts his stuff for the judges and crowd.

Medal Heads
Competition winners—and thus the new Mr. and Ms Vancouver Leather—Anna and Chris.

Priscilla, Queen of the Res
DUFFERIN

Grinning Like Tom 'N' Katie
If co-emcees Paige Turner and Vivian Von Brokenhymen keep this up they'll wind up sharing Oprah's couch!

Get Up Under My Skirt Like Air From A Subway Vent, Big Boy!
Carlotta Gurl shows a Japanese tourist a good time at the Duff.

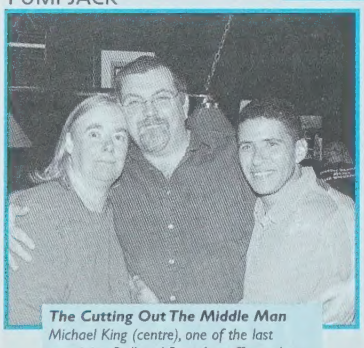
What—Too Much Product?
The ever-glamorous Jaylene, AKA Priscilla of the Res, allows the Outlooks photog to momentarily bask in her glow.

I Found Them In My Chill At Wendy's
Hazel de Pontiac preps for a turn at the Dildo Toss event. That a new one in the Gay Games repertoire?

Glass Youth Choir Fundraiser
OASIS PUB

An Act With Currency...
3-Dollar Bill performs as part of the evening's lineup, a night to generate fun and funds for the youth choir's upcoming trip to gay mecca, San Francisco.

Farewell Mr. King
PUMPJACK

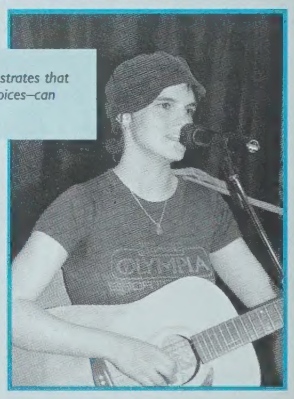


The Cutting Out The Middle Man
Michael King (centre), one of the last remaining Doll and Penny's staff members, prepares to say goodbye to PumpJack with the help of Little Sister's manager Janine Fuller (left) and pal Buster Cherry.

A Superb Sendoff
PumpJack's own Vince Marino (left), Randy Newburg and Stephen Bauer flank Michael King pre-departure. Try not to think of it as the end of an era, guys, just the beginning of a new one...

Planning an event in Vancouver? Contact Barry at (604) 685-1377 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About. Photos By: Barry Piersdorff

Skip The CD
With the assistance of Bryant Olander, drag entertainer extraordinaire Joan-E does her part—her vocal part, that is—to help send the kids to SFO. Ain't that sweet?



Solo Project
Melissa McCready demonstrates that good things—and great voices—can come in small packages.

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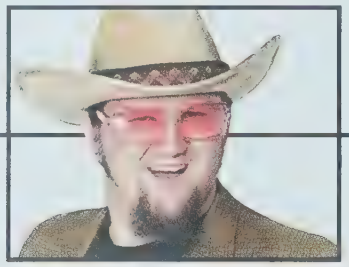
By David Crosson

RUNWAY Jay

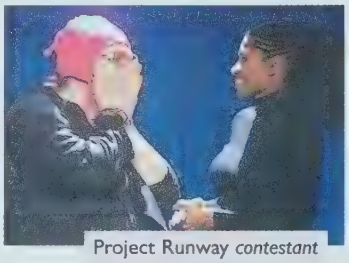


On the line from New York, *Project Runway* winner Jay McCarroll informs me that he's "just having a s**tty day" and very sweetly asks that I not focus *too* heavily on the "negative stuff" he is discussing. And how could I? The man is merely telling the truth, something associated with him as much as smoking, network censor beeps and cranking out spectacularly crafted garments in the Bravo reality series' gruelling challenges. (The show just finished its first-season Canadian run on Life Network.)

A frontrunner from the beginning (at least to a keen eye) McCarroll triumphed at season's end to take the top prize from two challengers: the very talented (if unfairly blessed with custom footwear) Kara Saun, and hateful *hausfrau* Wendy Pepper. Now fully embroiled in the ever-nasty world of fashion, McCarroll very generously took time out of an insane schedule to share a few thoughts—and a good deal of himself—with *Outlooks* readers.

Outlooks: You're in New York right now on business, but are you still going to maintain a residence in Lehman [PA] as well?

McCarroll: No, I'm moving to New York at the beginning of August. I have to be here, I guess, to do this s****! As long as I can go [to Lehman] once a month and recuperate I'll be okay. It's only two hours from New York, so it's not that big a deal.



Project Runway *contestant Kara Saun congratulates winner Jay McCarroll*

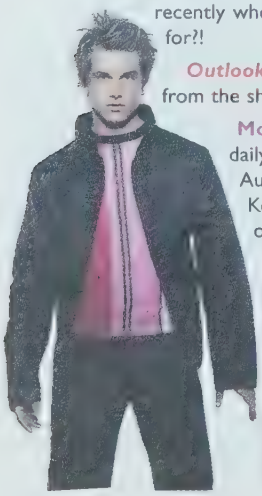
Outlooks: I imagine your life is pretty crazy right now; are you even touching the ground as you fly around doing all this stuff?

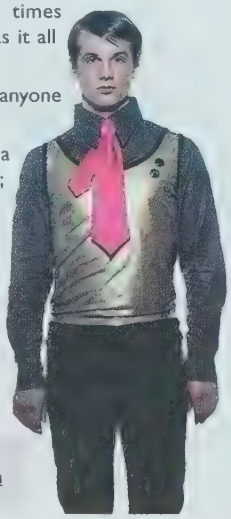
McCarroll: I'm trying to but it's hard—I mean, I have a hundred-million things to worry about right now: moving to New York and manufacturing and figuring out how to do this line and TV things and entertainment things and pop culture commentary. It's all happened overnight and there's no class you can take for all this; you know, Introduction to Fame or something. This'll all have a great payoff and it's great exposure, obviously, but there have been times recently when I was like, what the f**** was it all for?!

Outlooks: Do you keep in touch with anyone from the show these days?

McCarroll: I talk to Nora on a daily basis, and I also talk to Mario; Austin, once in a while. And I see Kevin out and talk to Robert occasionally.

Outlooks: Did you have any preconceived notion about the show or any set strategy when you went into it?





Menswear designs from Jay's site, www.jaymccarroll.com

McCarroll: I went with a completely open mind, even for the audition. I mean, it had never been done before—I had no idea what the f****ing show was about or who was involved or what kind of quality the actual show would be. You just kind of suck it up, get on a bus, land and have a camera crew following you around for a month straight. It's bizarre and unreal, even though it's "reality TV". They take everything away from you so that it's all about the work—and getting s**** done and doing interviews and being sweaty and sleep-deprived and hot and annoyed, especially since you're hanging out with strangers.

Below: a variety of looks from McCarroll's site

Outlooks: At least you could smoke.

McCarroll: Yeah, but you had to *ask* someone to get you cigarettes! You couldn't leave and you always had to be chaperoned. You don't have your wallet or your cell phone or access to the Internet or television or magazines—nothing. Everything you talk about has to do with the work. I mean, it was pointless to talk about what, I dunno, Paris Hilton was doing at that time because five months later it wouldn't be relevant. But, in retrospect, it was a great, intense experience that I'll never have again.

Outlooks: Now that you have greater resources at your disposal than ever before, are you going to focus more on high-quality materials or is it more about getting your ideas out there in quantity?

McCarroll: Ummm, I'm probably going to split the line up into two sections; one very mass-market and one more high-end; you know, in a Barney's or Saks Fifth Avenue kind of way. I asked myself: would my cousin want to buy an eighty-dollar T-shirt? I highly doubt it, so I'm probably going to cheaply produce part of the line for mass-market appeal. I mean, *I* don't f****ing spend more than ten dollars on anything—shoes, whatever. I will wear three-dollar pants! Certainly, no one *I* know will buy a four-hundred dollar *anything*. But I'll also do some more artistic, high-end stuff just to appease those bitches who want it! If I can make some money from it then I will! [Laughs]

Outlooks: Sounds like you've got a pretty good idea of how you want tackle things.

McCarroll: Well, I'm still trying to overcome some other obstacles with my line, in terms of trying to produce in America or, if not, in factories that have great labour laws. Using organic fibres. Not using fur or leather. So I'm trying to solve all the f****ing world's problems in one collection and it's getting to be quite hard! I think I might have to give in a little until I can afford my own factory or at least be able to oversee all my work. Help me, David! Send me a f****ing hot boy assistant to do all this s**** work for me!

Outlooks: Are you finding the transition a bit weird, now that you're fully engulfed in the industry?

McCarroll: Well, I'm a hard kind of character—I ask myself on a daily basis: do I really care? So many people I come across in this industry obsesses over their lifestyle, of "living" fashion. For me, boots aren't important, pants are not important, Dolce & Gabbana isn't important. What about AIDS, cancer research, North Korea? These are *huge* issues that people should really be concerned with. How can they think that wearing a f****ing tunic—or whatever—this season is important?! I look at things like the *old* Benetton and ask myself how I can be socially aware and interesting. How can I achieve that kind of awareness without it being heavy or obvious?

continued opposite

from previous

I mean, it's not like I want to put huge f***ing tags on my things saying "This was made with one-hundred percent bamboo fibre" or "This was made by someone in a hospice". But how do you address those kinds of issues in a casual way? [Sighs] I don't know—maybe I'm in a weird spot right now! [Laughs]

Outlooks: Well, it's easy to get caught up in the hype and forget what matters to you.

McCarroll: Yeah, I just want to make real clothes for real people—I know no one really thinks that! I get asked, "Who's on your celebrity wish list?" And I'm like, I don't know... *nobody*! [Laughs] I think there's a tendency to look down on people who make sportswear or streetwear or anything that's not "high fashion". To me, high fashion is a ten-thousand dollar, stupid beaded gown. I had *huge* intentions when I came into this after I won: I'm going to change the fashion world and blah, blah, blah. But the more I go through it the less I see that being an option. Then again, it's only been four months!

Two looks from the winning Project Runway *collection*

Outlooks: Do you feel like you're making some progress, though?

McCarroll: Yeah—I'll be showing my line at New York Fashion Week in February, to be in stores next fall, so I can see that end result clear as day. But all the other factors along the way—the marketing, the intellectual property, the contracts, the binding contracts, the manufacturing, the licensing, the copyrights, the trademarks, everything—it's just so *draining*.

Outlooks: Well, given the thought and care you're putting into this, it's no wonder you're finding it to be a drain!

Signature style from Jay McCarroll

McCarroll: It is hard, because I think someone else who'd been given my opportunity could be a real douche bag about it! You know, there are other contestants on the show—not naming names—who'd be happy that they won and just be hanging out on the scene with Richie Rich and Heatherette and Boy George and all that crap. And they wouldn't care how things were being made—they'd want it for ego, to have stuff on the red carpet and in *People* magazine. I have none of those aspirations. I don't care about those people; I don't care about dressing Jennifer Aniston!

Outlooks: Are you totally focused on your career right now, or are you still making time for a personal life and dating and things like that?

McCarroll: Oh, I make time for my social and personal life—I'm not an "all work" type of person. That's just retarded. As far as dating, I've never really been interested in that. Everyone I run into is so retarded. A lot of gay men are so tacky and cheesy and drama-filled, you know? [Laughs] I mean, conversations with some of them are just *horrible*! I have a lot of straight friends, actually. I just don't get when people "live fashion" or "live gay". There are a *gazillion* other ways to live your life. I'm not going to let a little thing like sexuality dictate how I live my life: what kind of music I listen to, what I dress like, what I look like, who I socialize with. It's exhausting.

Outlooks: Have you been received differently in the gay community since the show?

McCarroll: Oh, absolutely. Before this thing, I could've gone to any bar in New York and no one would have looked at me, talked to me. Gay men never paid any attention to me before this show. [Laughs] Now I'm regressing even more, where I don't *want* to be looked at, I don't *want* to talk to anyone—even more than before! Dating, relationships, living a "gay" life, none of that is a priority. At all. My life is such a whirlwind right now I wouldn't even *dream* of bringing someone else into it. [Laughs]

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Savour the summertime sizzle

By John Ayres

Ever since the first caveman clubbed a critter and cooked it over an open flame, the act of barbequing food has been associated with manliness. With the recent passage of Father's Day and the "ideal" gifts that go with it, we were all once again reminded that even the most chauvanistic of pigs will happily strap himself into an apron and coo over sizzling steaks without so much as a second thought about how it comes across on the manliness meter. In short, barbeque is the brute of the culinary world; more butch than a lesbian in a leather bar. Despite the "haute" efforts of such talented gents as chef Bobby Flay, the whole thing still has the aroma of rough trade about it—not *necessarily* a bad thing, but certainly not meant for 'polite' company. Below are a few tasty ideas to help you master (or even mistress) the grill without looking like you skipped a few steps on the evolutionary scale...

Mary, Have a Little Lamb

Barbequed Lamburgers

Ingredients

2 ½ pounds minced lamb (extra-lean is not recommended; the fat content helps bind the burgers and keep them moist as they cook)

1 finely chopped medium onion (a sweet variety like Vidalia or Walla Walla, if available)

1 teaspoon curry powder

1 teaspoon powdered ginger or ½ teaspoon fresh grated

½ cup chopped fresh cilantro, mint or parsley

1 tablespoon mango chutney

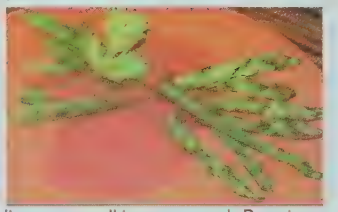
¼ teaspoon salt

5 twists of freshly ground black pepper

Place all ingredients in a large bowl, mix thoroughly by hand and divide out into eight to ten patties. Cover in plastic wrap and allow to "settle" in the refrigerator for at least thirty minutes. Brush your grill with a bit of oil to prevent sticking and cook over medium coals for approximately five minutes each side. Once cooked, remove from heat and place in split sourdough rolls. Top with crumbled mild cheese (such as Havarti), mango chutney and fresh sprigs of cilantro. This is a delicious, somewhat upscale twist on a barbeque classic, and sure to be a hit with all of your "carnivorous" guests.

No Relation to Britney

Grilled Asparagus Spears with Savoury Strawberry Sauce



Ingredients

1 pound fresh asparagus

1 cup fresh, hulled strawberries (or ½ cup frozen)

½ cup fresh cilantro

2 tablespoons Cointreau

In a blender or food processor, combine the strawberries, Cointreau and cilantro and pulse until all ingredients are well incorporated. Pour into a serving pitcher or measuring cup and set aside in the fridge. Wash asparagus spears thoroughly and snap off at the edible "sweet spot" in preparation for cooking. Toss in either olive or avocado oil (the latter has a higher "smoke point") and grill over medium heat until tender and slightly "blistered". Remove to a platter and drizzle with strawberry sauce. Serve immediately. The sweet and savoury sauce is an excellent counterpoint to the smoky flavour of the asparagus, and also complements other grilled vegetables quite nicely.

Sweeter Still...

Barbequed Sweet Potatoes

Ingredients

1 pound peeled sweet potatoes, sliced ½ to ¾ inches thick

3 tablespoons ketchup

1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

1 tablespoon red wine vinegar

1 teaspoon dry mustard

1 teaspoon brown sugar

½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Combine all wet ingredients, pepper, brown sugar and dry mustard in a bowl and mix well. Brush both sides of the sweet potato slices with the glaze mixture and grill over medium heat, turning frequently (potatoes should be cooked thoroughly after approximately 4 minutes of cumulative grill time each side). Remove from heat, chop into cubes and season with a few twists of fresh ground pepper. In ideal grilling conditions, the sauce will form a bit of a crust, leaving the interior flavourful and tender.

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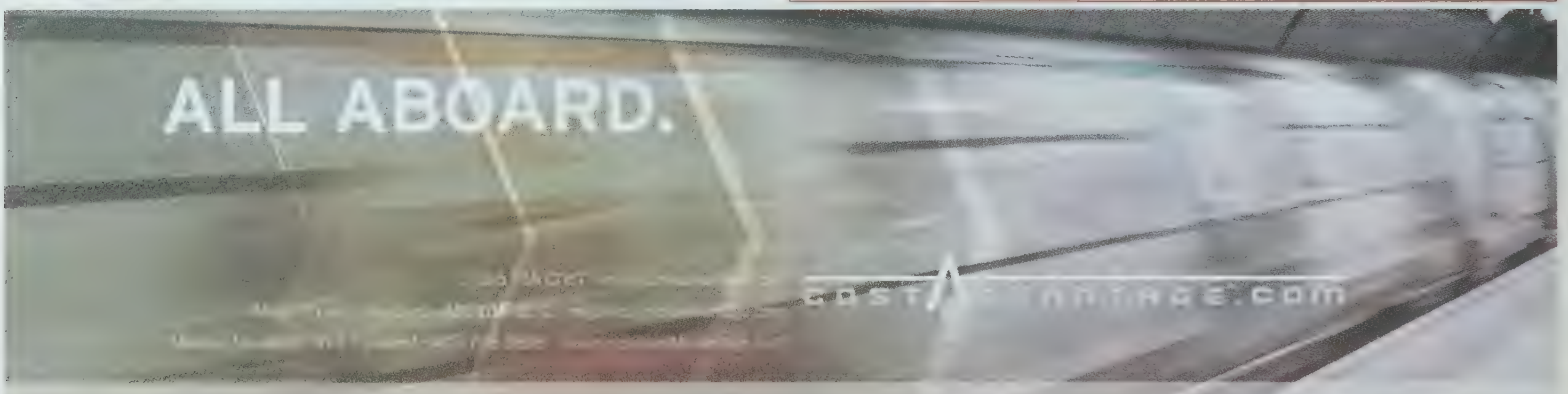

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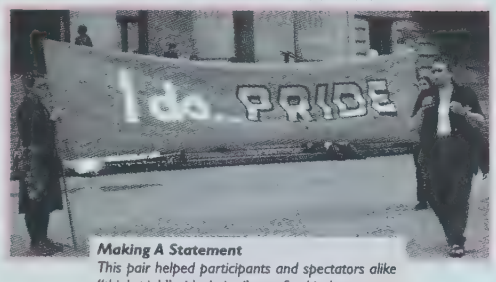
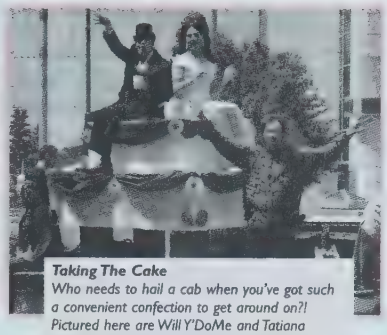
Pride Parade
DOWNTOWN TO MEMORIAL PARK

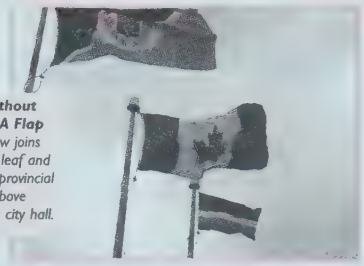


Making A Statement
This pair helped participants and spectators alike "think pink" with their vibrant fucshia banner.



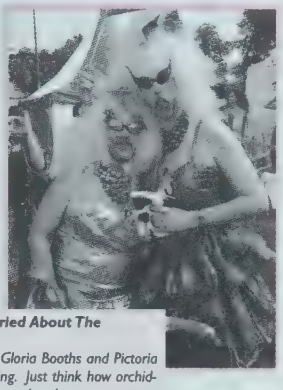
Taking The Cake
Who needs to hail a cab when you've got such a convenient confection to get around on?! Pictured here are Will Y'DoMe and Tatiana White, the "icing on the cake" of the Gio's float.

Flag Raising
WINNIPEG CITY HALL



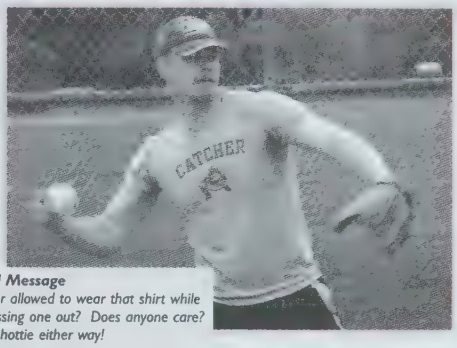
Flying Without Creating A Flap
The rainbow joins the maple leaf and Mantiba's provincial flag high above Winnipeg's city hall.

Standing—And Sitting—On Ceremony
Pride brides and grooms celebrated the advent of same-sex marriage in colourful style throughout this year's festivities.



And You Girls Were Worried About The Dresses?!
Despite that riot of taffeta, Gloria Booths and Pictoria Secrete looked rather fetching. Just think how orchid-like a bride would look next to them!

Pitch for Pride Baseball Tournament
ASSINIBOINE PARK



Mixed Message
Is Trevor allowed to wear that shirt while he's tossing one out? Does anyone care? He's a hottie either way!

Planning an event in Winnipeg? Contact Brent at (204) 789-9215 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About. All Photos By: Brent Y.

Grin And Bear It
Folks out to see the "Broadway Bears" got four more of them than they had expected. Here, Bill, Rob, Gilbert and Jay pose with "biker bear".

We All Scream For Ice Queen
With a look that could melt an iceberg, let alone a Popsicle, Willyssa Thunderpuss refreshes herself after a long day of "queerleading".

Hoe-ray For The Winners
Members of the Hoe team (did they drop an 'm' or ad an 'e'?) pose modestly for their victory photo after a damp day of playing ball.

Sing Loud, Sing Proud
Members of the Rainbow Harmony Project reach out to the many fans who gathered in Memorial Park after the parade to hear them perform.

They Hit A "Homer"
Members of the "A League of their Own" team celebrate their victory over the "B" side. Looks good on 'em, donnit?

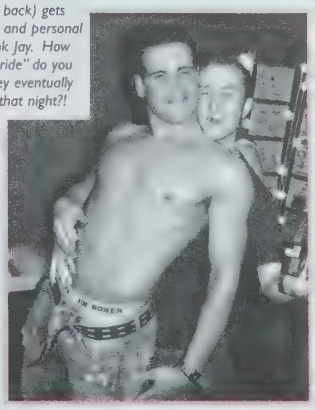
PHAZ Pride Dance Party
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE

They've Got You Hooped, Girl!
Electra Storm shows off her favourite accessories—give her a few more rings and she'll rival Liz Taylor. A few more boys and she'll rival Paris Hilton...

Hot Spotlight
A dancer makes the most of the dramatic lighting at the PHAZ Dance—not that he needed any help, mind you...

Da Buffed Bomb
Barbie has butterflies on her stomach—easy for all to see thanks to the cut of that scampy little feathered number!

A "Feel Good" Event
Jesse (in back) gets up close and personal with hunk Jay. How much "Pride" do you think they eventually showed that night?!



Same-sex slam-dunk?

By Dale Smith

For the first time since the free trade debate of 1988, the House of Commons has extended their session into the summer months, this time to deal with the issue of same-sex marriage. In a surprising move, the bill was declared to be of national interest in order to have the importance necessary to extend the sitting. Once the bill passes the third reading (expected in the last week of June) it will move on to the Senate, which has also agreed to extend their sitting into the summer in order to ensure that C-38 is passed. Once the Senate passes the bill, it is a relatively simple matter to arrange for the Governor General to give it royal ascent, thereby making it law.

"We've worked very hard to convince the majority of MPs to extend the session," says Alex Munter, National Co-ordinator for Canadians for Equal Marriage. "I'm glad that they did. I think it reflects the broad-based consensus on the issue—that it's time to let Parliament decide after two-and-a-half years of debate."

That it's time to bring the bill to a vote was reflected in an Environics poll in April of this year, where seventy-six percent of Canadians responded that they want Parliament to vote on the bill. The question was not *how* Parliament should vote, simply that they should actually vote on the issue.

But in the lead-up to the decision to extend the sitting of the House, there were several attempts to delay the passage of the bill until the fall sitting of Parliament—a move that frustrates Munter.

"There's not a single, solitary undecided member of Parliament," he says. "It makes no sense to continue to prolong the debate."

The expected obstacle to the bill's reading, being the budget amendment that could have toppled the government, was passed on the same day as the motion to extend the sitting was passed in an obscure procedural move. This clears the way for debate on the civil marriage bill, despite Conservative party attempts at obstruction and filibustering.

At press time, the bill was expected to pass the third reading by a healthy margin. The second reading was passed on May 4 with a vote of 164-137.

Meanwhile, on the same day as the session extension was passed, New Brunswick became the eighth province to grant same-sex marriages. The court challenge was launched in the province after the couples decided that the Federal government's bill was taking too long to pass. ▼

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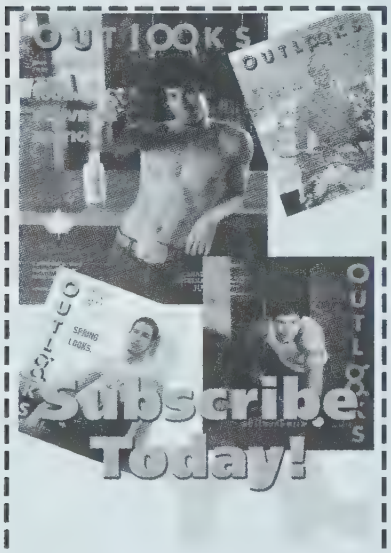

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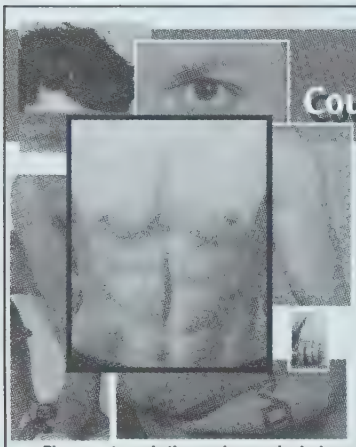

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Jennifer Ezekiel, Spa Europa

Get with the game and make your play, compadres, as July will command us to leap before we look. Four retrograde planets will bump and grind through the cosmos in surprising, dreamy and rather impactful ways. You may be led astray, so pack a few breadcrumbs for that long trip home.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

The road to companionship—and even true love—will twist, turn and wind up in a very surprising, exciting destination. No, it won't be Palm Springs but it'll be just as good. The secret, proud Ram, is to give yourself up to the fates and float on destiny's river on a dream and a prayer. By mid-month you will wash ashore with the rest of the shells. What will we hear if we hold you up to our ear?

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Impasses at work will become no-speed-limit thruways this July. Queer Bulls may have been led on detours on their corporate cruise, but can expect to hit the accelerator as the month progresses. While you cruise, there may be some miscommunication with family—but don't let them influence you. Rely instead on a certain colleague who may offer you luck to add to your pluck.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Prepare for a few unexpected potholes in your life journey and manoeuvre around them carefully. Explosive surprises in your career could upend your careful plans and toss you in new directions. Be warned: it will be more trouble than it's worth. Instead of pushing and pulling, just lie back and enjoy it. Keep cool this July, gay Twin, and resolve to play more than work. That should be easy!

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

July will increase your sex appeal as well as your appetite. Pink Crabs will be tempted to fall claws over heels for a worthless wretch—but before you squander all these good vibes on a false note, seek your mood music closer to home. Cull a few good steers from the general herd and lasso them into your pen. Ride 'em, cowpoke! Bareback or western saddle? Yee-haw!

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

The fates will find a way to puncture your balloon if you puff yourself up too much, so let patience and rectitude reign through July. The secret of your ultimate success will be to spend most of the month sliding through life on your greasy charm. Spread it around and wait until the end of the month before you resume your royal title. And all of the privileges that go with it...

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

July can be a very profitable time for all queer Virgins who keep their eye on the bottom line. And you won't even have to work hard for your swag—it will find a way to float to you. Enjoy every last dime of it and be generous with your friends. The summer is far too short and those lazy, hot nights may be a bit too chilly if you, alone, count your dough.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Not only do you have charisma to spare, you will maximize its potential at every opportunity this July. Proud Libras will be the envy of the crowd where even their foul comments are considered sweet nothings. But be aware of your impact on others: by mid-month your sugar could turn to saccharin. Good looks, ample charm and sexy 'oomph' last longer with a dash of salt.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

You have a guardian angel who corrects your foibles and covers your risk. Lucky thing! Early July will bring new, exotic people into your web and, as the month progresses, proud Scorps will find ways to strengthen these very valuable relationships. Seek and conquer to build your empire. Hard work will pay off *much more* than backroom politics—well, at least for now...

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Gay Archers sure know how to party hearty, and this July they won't stop until they explore every festive nook and cranny. This is because they have boundless energy and often become the "go to" person for extravagant, over-the-top fun. Just where will this all lead? You'll know by the end of the summer. Go on a treasure hunt and see what–or, better still, who—you can uncover. Remember, the fewer the covers the better…

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

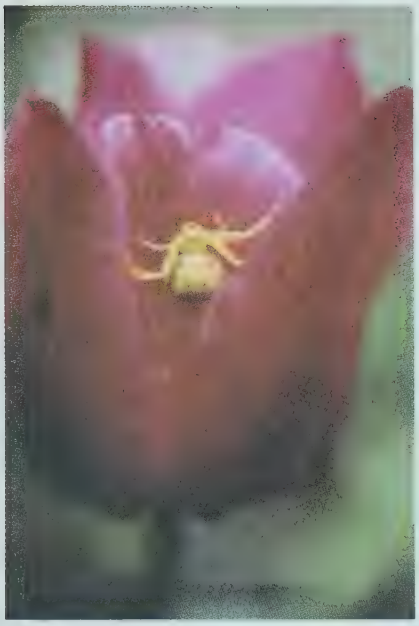
Pink Caps will effortlessly scale the corporate walls and launch a coup d'etat. Good thing —you were beginning to feel unappreciated. But all work and no play makes for a less-than-memorable summer. Know when to put in the sweat equity and know when to relax and kick back. This fall, you'll want to do more than happily reminisce on meetings and conference calls. Or will you…?

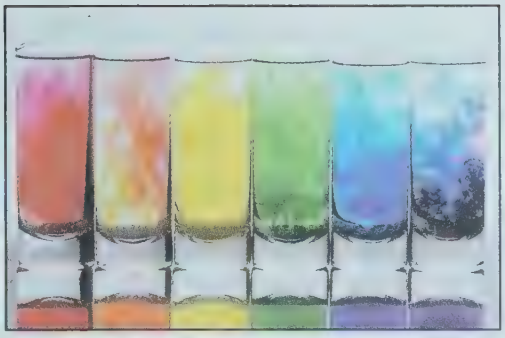
AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Don' t sit home and vegetate this July, Aqueerius. Plant your stake in some faraway place. Get out and travel. Nothing else will give you such a charge and bring you unexpected luck. You'll dream of adventure, love and possible commitment (it's there for the discovering). But watch your wallet, as Wilde sprees cost *much* more than you think. Really, sprees of *any* quality are hardly free...

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

You will make a rather radical first impression this July—and by radical, I mean *explosive*. You'll jostle the karma and create your own new energies. This may not play out well at work, so behave and quietly simmer on the job. But detonate your assorted social bombs, as you will, in chosen circles. There will be another anarchist ready to hatch a plot with you. Who will crack first?





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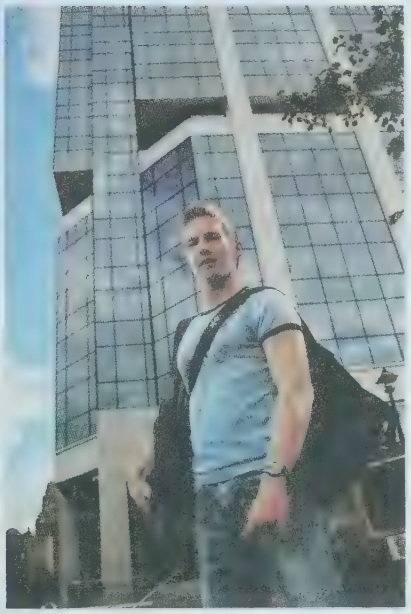

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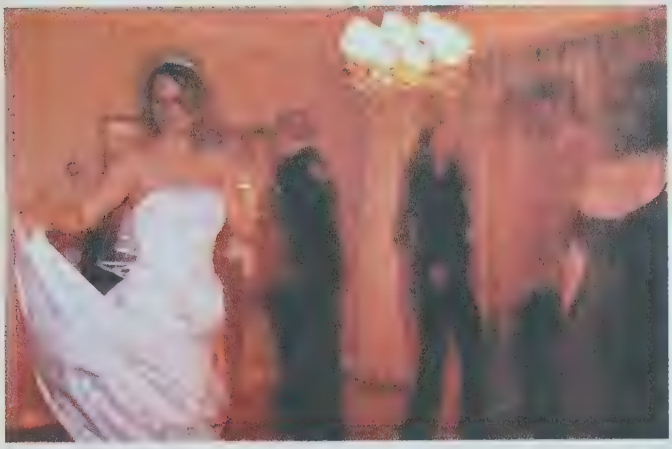

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REVIEW

Breakfast with Tiffany

I'm not sure what I admire more about Edwin John Wintle: the fact that he put his life on hold to serve as a makeshift father for his niece, or that he was able to write about the experience without the whole thing turning into a treacle-fest. *Breakfast with Tiffany* chronicles the first year of the author's life as he "plays house" for real with his troubled sister's even more troubled daughter, a tale he manages to tell with great candor and a gentle, engaging wit. As an established, forty-year-old gay man, Wintle, it seems, had all his ducks more or less in a row when duty (more specifically, sister Megan) made the call that turned his life upside down. In his niece's case, it was a sacrifice he was willing to make, as the very same exercise managed to turn her own life right side up. Eventually.

Ever skeptical of "feel good" stories, I waded into the book armed with more than a few grains of salt, as heroic tales tend often to rely on high drama and hyperbole in order to score emotion. Not so with Wintle. Early on, it became apparent that the violin section would *not* be employed in this particular effort—at least not in a contrived way—and I abandoned the salt on good faith that I could continue to follow their journey without such assistance. And I'm glad I did.

Much to his credit, Wintle strives to keep the tone light and entertaining, even in the darkest of circumstances, and very willingly offers the reader chunks of his own strife that lesser writers would (and likely could) leave out. Perhaps one of the most endearing things about Wintle's style is his willingness to admit that he doesn't have all the answers (or even a clue, in some cases) when it comes to life—Tiffany's *or* his own. In some passages, you can practically hear his eyes rolling around in his head over some ridiculous notion his niece has glommed onto and won't let go. In this way, he engages the reader as a confidante or partner-in-crime, somebody he trusts enough to reveal that he'd really like to toss his young charge out the window, at least under certain conditions. His dry sense of humour goes a long way in keeping these episodes as upbeat and in perspective as possible, for both the reader and evidently, at the time they occurred, for the author himself.

Aside from hitting the right emotional mark with incredible accuracy, one of the other great things about this book is Wintle's portrayal of his beloved New York, a setting that has long since passed the mark for inspiring the most clichés in written works. Despite his obvious fondness for the city, Wintle avoids cataloguing its charms with unrealistic breathiness, the purple-hued awe that many seem to employ when describing "the greatest city in the world". True, NYC *is* a fabulous place, but it is also a dirty and treacherous one, as Wintle enthusiastically stresses in order to strike a balance with the hype that seems inherent to descriptions of the city. In some ways the author manages to put the whole place into perspective, carefully weighing the good and the bad on a mental scale until the balance is just right. This is also how he manages to convey the trials and tribs of raising a fourteen-year-old girl in such a genuinely moving and amusing way.

In *Breakfast with Tiffany*, it is the author's own flaws that make the story ring so true, the cracks he allows to show on what could easily be passed off as a seamless façade. Wintle freely admits to an aimless and often unsuccessful start to his own life, copping to such things as a failed acting career, a stint in a mental hospital, significant relationship issues and a regrettably careless HIV infection. By removing himself from a pedestal, the author gives greater weight to his words and ideas, delivering them at times with the detachment of a reporter. "This is what happened," he seems to say, "and this is how *life* happens, with random joy and random cruelty. Deal with it." Fortunately, for both Wintle and this reader, *Breakfast with Tiffany* was a wonderful way to appreciate that age-old lesson even more. Inspirational, insightful and entertaining, this book is highly recommended.

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Anchors a-gay!

By Ralph Higgins

What do you do if you are the director for a gay cruise for men and your headliner cancels just days before departure? Sounds like a scenario from an old Hollywood movie script, doesn't it? Well, if you're Gregg Kaminsky you call on your friend Rosie O'Donnell to suggest a replacement.

rFamily Vacations' Gregg Kaminsky and Kelli O'Donnell, Rosie's spouse
Photo courtesy of Bruce Gilkas

Explains Kaminsky, "I knew Rosie because my partner, Dan, was friends with Rosie's partner, Kelli—Dan worked for Disney and Kelli for Nickelodeon. Rosie still had her talk show and I called to see if she could suggest someone to come down to Miami and perform. Surprisingly, she suggested herself. The boys loved her and Rosie loved the concept of the gay cruise. She could not believe how much fun and freedom there was on board."

O'Donnell asked whether there was a cruise available for gays and lesbians and their children. When told that there wasn't, she proposed that Gregg and Kelli start one. Thus, rFamily Vacations, popularly known as the Rosie O'Donnell cruises, was born.

I spoke with Gregg Kaminsky recently and I asked him whether he had ever felt daunted by the undertaking.

"It's a very risky business. I knew the cruise would be amazing but I was always worried if we could sell a ship as big as the Dawn. Rosie told us 'Go big'... so we did. The first cruise had about 1,600 people and this year we'll sail with more than 2,000. I feel confident that by next summer we'll have a waiting list."

The success of the cruise has led to co-founders Gregg Kaminsky and Kelli O'Donnell being named to *Out Magazine*'s top 100 of 2004. The same magazine honoured Rosie O'Donnell as activist of the decade.

This first of its kind family-oriented vacation package "designed especially for the gay and lesbian community" had its inaugural trip in 2004 travelling from New York to the Bahamas. And this year The Norwegian Dawn is setting sail for Nova Scotia!

While many Americans—and a few Canadians—might be hard-pressed to locate Nova Scotia on a map, let alone have any desire to visit, rFamily Vacations deliberately chose Halifax because of the city's queer-friendly reputation. "We knew gay marriage was legal in Nova Scotia and that was one of the reasons we selected that destination," states Kaminsky. He and O'Donnell (Kelli) deliberately decided this year to celebrate same-sex marriage by having as ports of call places where it was legal. The other stops, stateside, are Boston, Provincetown and Martha's Vineyard, although one cannot help noting that the legal status of queer marriage in Massachusetts is a matter of ongoing debate.

Entertainment on board the luxury cruise ship, aside from the dynamic Rosie O'Donnell, her partner Kelli and family, will include Cyndi Lauper, comedian Judy Gold, Sharon Gless, (*Queer as Folk*) and football player Esera Tuaolo.

Of course, Gregg Kaminsky and his husband, Dan will also be front-and-centre. " I'm kind of the Julie McCoy of the cruise," he says with a laugh.

On July 12 the brightly coloured Norwegian Dawn will arrive in the welcoming waters of Halifax, Nova Scotia, bringing more than three thousand passengers and crew. I suspect there will be lots of rainbow flags and smiling homo faces on the waterfront that day. Besides the importance to the local queer community, the one day stop at the east coast port—with a side trip planned to picturesque Peggy's Cove—has already aroused considerable media attention throughout the province and beyond, as well as generating financial excitement in the boardrooms of the province's chambers of commerce and tourist industry. (Note to politicians and merchants: gay marriage is good for business!)

The Norwegian Dawn will count Nova Scotia among its destination ports
Photo courtesy of Barb Kinney

The success of rFamily Vacations is especially significant in light of present-day American politics. And it certainly serves to highlight the differences in terms of gay rights and social climate between Canada and the United States, a country where our own Stephen Harper might—oh, sweet irony!—be considered a liberal. The Rosie O'Donnell cruise may well be considered a kind of rainbow flagship for the American queer community. The Norwegian Dawn's bold presence, like the irrepressible personality of Rosie herself, does much to fight against the current restrictive atmosphere in The Land of the Free.

As for the future plans of rFamily Vacations, Kaminsky says, "Next summer, we'll be sailing to Alaska, departing from Seattle. We're also looking at a trip to the Galapagos Islands as well as a land-based program in the midwest."

While Rosie's new best friend, Barbra Streisand, may not yet figure on the list of upcoming performers, with the feisty O'Donnell at the helm, anything is possible.

Members of the Nova Scotia GLBT community will probably choose to regard the cruise ship's arrival as an unofficial kick off to Halifax Pride Celebrations, which run July 17–24.

Ralph Higgins is a writer, columnist and book/movie reviewer living in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia.

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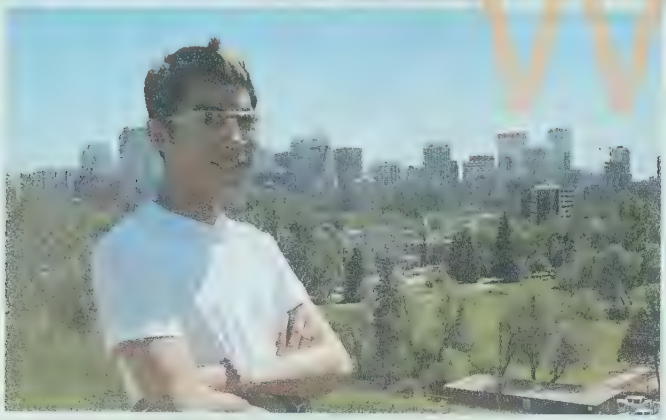


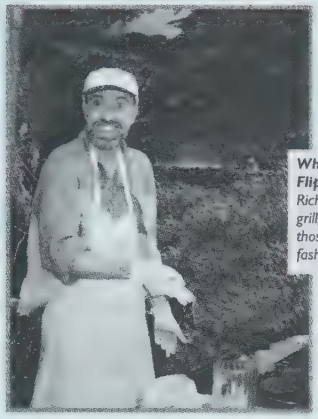
Gianni

Photographs by Terence Leung

GLCSA Fundraiser

MONEY-PENNIES

Only Too Happy To Help
GLCSA event volunteers Darcy and Bryan take a turn at the silent auction table. Judging from the amount of fun people were having, there was little silence involved in that particular activity!



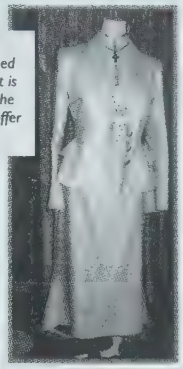
What Do You Think I'm Flippin' Doing?
Richard gets animated over the grill, doubtless eager to feed all those hungry guests in a timely fashion.

The 'L' Contingent
Among the attendees at the kick-off event for the GLCSA fundraiser series were (from left) GLCSA President Danielle Ladouceur, Jane Ellenor, Aimee Reeves and Judy Paterson.

New Location

D.I.C.I.B? RETAIL SHOP

Form...
D.I.C.I.B? (Does It Come In Black?) style consultant Craig Frame (centre) flanked by über-glamour girls Shaellye (left) and Laura at the grand opening of the company's new storefront operation.



Holy Frock!
This suit with peplumed jacket and flared skirt is just one example of the many "stunners" on offer at D.I.C.I.B?

...And Function
D.I.C.I.B? founder and designer Shae Barry (centre) with Johhny, his operations manager, and Laura, the most accomplished "needle mistress" in the west.

GLCSA Fundraiser

SOLAR CAFE

A Happy Occasion
Brodie flashes a killer smile at the third installment of the GLCSA fundraisers—gee, think he's having a good time? If not, give that man an Oscar!

Vinyl Fetish
DJ Geosphere keeps the records—and the room—moving with his fabulous signature sound. Pity we couldn't take him with us everywhere, innit?

Three For Three
Obviously happy with the fruits of their efforts, (from left) GLCSA's Jayme Harper, Celina Dolan and Don Axford take a moment to relax and say 'cheese' for our camera.

Planning an event in Calgary? Contact Cap at (403) 228-1157 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.
Photos By: Outlooks Staff

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The *Amazing* couple

By Dale Smith

In *The Amazing Race 7*, gay couple Lynn Warren and Alex Ali, television producers in West Hollywood, captured the hearts of television viewers, even if they didn't capture the million dollar prize at the end. Recently, the pair came up to Ottawa to tie the knot in a highly publicized ceremony which brought media from across North America to witness the event. They've rapidly become the gay darlings of the press, and the wedding proved the extent to which that was true.

But what about the price of fame? It's no secret that anyone 'out' in the American media is immediately elevated to "role model" status and expected to support causes, all the while having their personal lives placed under a microscope to determine how suitable they are for the title bestowed. Has this couple felt the pressure so far?

Amazing Race 7 *contestants and recent newlyweds Alex and Lynn Photo courtesy of Rex Wockner*

"We *do* experience some pressure to be role models," Warren says. "Frankly, I think Alex and I are a great representation of a gay couple. Rosie O'Donnell thinks we're a great couple—that must mean *something*! The fact is that Alex and I just love each other, and it's a very simple thing. Certainly gay couples should aspire to be as happy as Alex and I are."

"And at the same time, Lynn and I get such support from people because we're unapologetic for who we are, and we live our lives out loud," Ali adds. "We weren't looking to be role models. We weren't looking to make a political statement; I think that's the best kind of role model you can look up to."

"And also the best kind of political statement," Warren offers. "Without shoving it down someone's throat—no pun intended!"

But what about the pressure of living up to the gay beauty myth? In a world where we are surrounded by images of bronzed and gym-toned bodies, Warren and Ali represent a more average look than one might expect in such "public" people.

"What's a gym?" Warren asks coyly. "The first thing our agent told us was—passive-aggressively—'Wow, television adds ten-fifteen pounds. You might want to lose some weight.' Living in West Hollywood, I thought I would just automatically get a great body—I thought it came with my apartment. I was so disappointed when I realized afterwards that I wasn't in perfect shape. But we're married—we don't care. We try to eat healthy, we try to live healthy. Certainly as we do more television, you'll probably see us getting more fit and more toned, just because I'm sick of looking at myself, and thinking that I look all swollen."

"There is that pressure from the media, but there's also that pressure from yourself," Ali adds. "You see yourself on TV and it *does* add ten extra pounds, so you do want to look your best. I have definitely felt that pressure." He goes on to joke about the myriad of diets he and Warren tried and broke in preparation for the wedding. "Lynn and I are starting to feel that pressure, and fortunately, we've been ignoring it."

The wedding itself was something that gave the couple a taste of the difference between Canada and the States. With a number of companies throwing sponsorship at the event, the two were able to look at the thought behind it. "It represents support, and it represents that people are celebrating our love, not just tolerating it. And there is such a difference," Warren says. "When we stepped off the plane, it was one of the first times that I'd heard a genuine 'congratulations'."

The wedding itself took on a variety of non-traditional aspects, from the chocolate and pink colours, to the fact that there wasn't an aisle to walk down. Instead of the Wedding March, Ottawa's Donnie Deacon (profiled in the May 2005 edition of *Outlooks*) played a non-traditional violin arrangement. The ceremony opened with doves being released, and was sealed with vows that did away with the obligations and "I promise" words that have long dominated. Finally, the pair was declared "married", not "groom and groom." Non-traditional maybe, but glamorous it was, indeed.

"I think that all queer guys have an element of glam and over the top in them," Warren jokes. "And sing out, Louise—get your glamour!"

"We've all been to boring weddings," Ali says. "I think it's time to change that. I mean my family is a dry family kind of wedding. No alcohol—you've got your orange juice and your water."

"And your flask in the car," Warren cuts in.

"I've always told myself growing up that, god, I can't get married, but if I ever did, it would not be like *this*!"

One of the other traditions that was broken was that neither of the couple's parents attended the ceremony—Warren's could not attend as his father was battling cancer, but Ali's father, who is Muslim, refused to attend, a move that divided the family. Ali, though upset by the move, says that he respects his father for standing up for what he believes in.

The couple sees themselves as lucky, given that the majority of reality show contestants lives aren't changed by the experience once they return home. But for a pair of producers in the business, that exposure can go a long way.

"We have so many offers," Ali says.

"The Travel Channel called us, they want us to host a gay travel show for them," Warren reveals.

"We pitched a show to Evolution Studios, who did *Boy Meets Boy*, and they're interested in buying it."

"And we're going to be starring in it, of course."

"As hosts, though, not as our own reality show," Ali adds. "Although we *have* had offers from production companies who have approached us to do our own reality show."

"In fact, this wedding was shot as a pilot for an upcoming reality show."

"On top of that, we're doing a show for LOGO network, the new gay channel in the States," Ali says. "Which is fantastic. Lynn and I want to jump in, and we also want to do non-gay things, which is what our show that we pitched is about."

"What they're interested in buying," Warren says and adds the word "secular" in air quotes.

"We have a lot of things in the works," Ali continues. "And we're very flattered that people want to see more of us. We love it."

"So keep an eye out, because we're definitely not going away," Warren concludes. ▼

Dale Smith is a freelance writer who lives in Ottawa. His work has previously appeared in XY Magazine, and Outlooks' RSVP competition.

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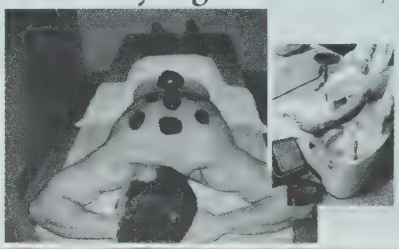

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IN THE NEWS

A new lease on (night)life

By Outlooks Staff

After more than two decades in business, one of Calgary's landmark nightspots is set to undergo some major changes, the first of which has been in its ownership. Late in June, partners Terrence Skoreyko and Colin Maley purchased the Detour/Arena/Victoria's complex from its original owners, and will soon embark on a series of renovations and "re-branding" exercises.

"We're going to focus on the nightclub side initially; that's where the biggest changes will be seen," says Skoreyko of this new venture. "We're going to give it a new look and upgrade it to meet our expectations. Probably over the next three months people will start seeing those changes. We're still going to carry on the Detour legacy in the meantime, but give it a bit of a facelift. Once everything is complete we will re-launch it as a new entity."

The complex, located in the old Model Dairies building at the corner of 17th Avenue and 2nd. Street S.W., has been known variously as Dick's, 318 and the Empire over its twenty-two-year run, and has seen numerous layout changes in how each business has occupied space in the building. When it first opened, Victoria's was a small coffee shop/café; it has since grown over the years into a sprawling and successful full-service restaurant and lounge. The latter designation is of particular interest to its new owners.

"We want to make this a casual, cosmopolitan space, a place where you can come for a drink after work, or a bite to eat, and then go out with friends to party on the town."

As time and tradespeople allow, the nightclub portion of the business will evolve into a fresh new space, geared towards a cross-section of patrons. "Something that Detour has done over the years is to create a space that's open to the whole community: gay, lesbian bi, transgendered, straight—anything," says Skoreyko. "We'd like to continue to offer that sense of inclusion and acceptance."

When the project is finished, Skoreyko and Maley say Calgarians—and visitors to the city, of course—will be able to enjoy an element of nightlife that has been missing for some time now. "We've done a lot of travelling and have always made a point of visiting a variety of bars and restaurants, so we've got a lot of ideas based on what we like and what other people like," Skoreyko says. "And we're definitely going to draw on that inspiration."

HAPPENINGS AND KUDOS VANCOUVER

Upcoming fundraising events

The ***Cutting Edges Gay Hockey Team*** has announced a commitment of **$5000** to be donated to local charities.

Following up on their recent **$10,000** donation to the newly completed **Dr. Peter Centre** in Vancouver ***(www.drpeter.org)***, the team is excited to continue their charitable ways by raising a minimum of **$5000** over the next three years. **$3000** of that donation has been pledged to the Dr. Peter Centre, and the remaining $2000 will go to charities to be named at a later date.

"We're celebrating our 10th anniversary this year, and we really want to show that we're more than just a bunch of guys that play hockey, but that we're a group that is committed to helping out the community as well", said Gavin Clifford, the Edge's newly elected President. *"Our guys work really hard putting on our popular SCORE parties and other fundraisers, and it's rewarding to see this money going to help worthwhile causes in our community."*

"The support that the Dr. Peter Centre has had from The Cutting Edges has been truly amazing", said Fred James, Secretary/Treasurer of the Dr. Peter Centre. *"Not only did the team provide us with $10,000 for the locker room at the Centre, but they have now cemented their continued support of the Centre with this announcement. The Board and Staff of the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all the hard work that the team has put into their efforts."*

The Cutting Edges Gay Hockey Club of Vancouver is a registered not for profit society in British Columbia. The purpose of the team is to provide a friendly, fun and supportive environment for gay hockey players to promote a sense of self-esteem and well-being among gay hockey players through fair play and skill development, and to provide positive exposure of the gay community within the wider society by maintaining competitive teams in recreational leagues in Vancouver.

For more information of The Cutting Edges, please check out our website at ***www.thecuttingedges.com***

& Kudos

Shown here are the *edges oldtimers*, left to right: Trevor McNeil, Kent Monroe, Rick Heffernan, Dan Gawthrop, Kevin Griffin, and Rob Bartram

THE CENTRE

Dr. Peter Centre

The Centre, *a community centre serving and supporting the Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual communities, and their allies were raising funds for and being recognized for its many services and projects.*

On April 23, 2005, at the Empire Landmark Hotel the Centre raised **$5,000** at its annual entertainment fundraiser ***"Vancity Presents Stardom 2005."***

On May 8, 2005, the ***Vancouver Gay Volleyball Association*** recognized the Centre's good work and donated **$1,500** to the Centre at its annual general meeting.

On May 14, 2005, the **Oasis Pub** held the annual ***Barb Snelgrove's annual 29th birthday party***. The "dunk-a-dyke" feature raised **$720**.

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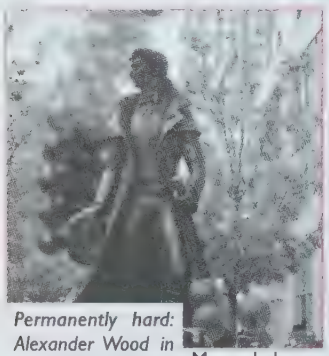
Statues and soirées

By Shaun Proulx

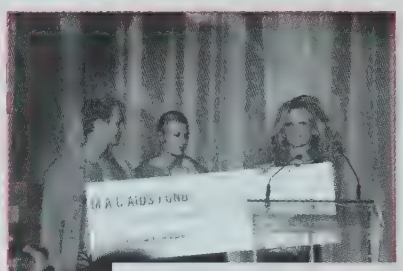
The massive heat wave that has enveloped Toronto as I write this (weeks ahead of the official calendar start to summer) has given way to tank tops, barely-there shorts and early suntans. And hotties. If you haven't been to the village in a while, there's a rather imposing dude standing on perma-cruise at the corner of Church and Alexander streets—a stud, despite being over two hundred years old. Of course, I'm talking about gay pioneer Alexander Wood, commemorated forever in an absolutely beautifully eight-foot bronze statue by the Canadian sculptor Del Newbigging. It took two years and $200,000 to make and was well worth it. Wood, in case you haven't heard, owned the land that is now Toronto's gay village (talk about a big gay coincidence) and got into a spot of trouble in the form of two years in exile for lying to a number of men in order to get them to show their cocks. If that's all it takes got get a statue of yourself, someone had better start work on mine today!



Permanently hard: Alexander Wood in all his bronzed glory

It's party season here now with Pride just around the corner. Boy George, Peter Rauhoffer and Manny Lehman are all causing much anticipation, with each touching down to headline various Pride blowouts. This spring has seen the birth of aggressive competition between two camps known as Prism Weekend and Rise, both offering a series of Pride weekend party options. This division is from the original Unity Weekend co-promoters going their separate ways to do their own thing, and the result so far has been a lot of wooing for partygoer cash. With many people still smarting from the Pride Ball debacle last year (climaxing with ticket holders being turned away from an overcrowded venue), there is sure to be many heading towards the Rise events (fags can hold a grudge for so long), but with the stronger talent lineup, Prism Weekend will easily be a success in its own right. Tune in next month to find out if my crystal ball predictions are even *remotely* accurate.

Of course, it was Fashion Cares that kicked off party time at the beginning of June; the Bollywood Cowboy theme continuing to cause controversy even after the event was over, culminating with a whiny exposé on the front page of the *Toronto Star* about how offensive the theme was to Indian culture and religion. Here are two reasons to just shut up about it already: 1) Fashion Cares is about raising money for the AIDS Committee of Toronto; carrying on as though its intention was to offend millions is inane. 2) Fashion Cares is about fashion, and fashion is art and art should know no boundaries. The end. Fun Fashion Cares highlights: host Pamela Anderson pulling her duties off with aplomb despite a rumoured backstage panic attack (read: hissy fit) when it looked like Ms. T & A wouldn't get out of there in time to arrive home for her son's birthday, as promised. Jann Arden sang enough melancholy to actually make my E start working backwards, Wayne Clarke made men wish they were women if only so they could wear his decadent gowns, and pop tarts Erasure showed up to close the show, making many in attendance feel young again, like botox for the soul.

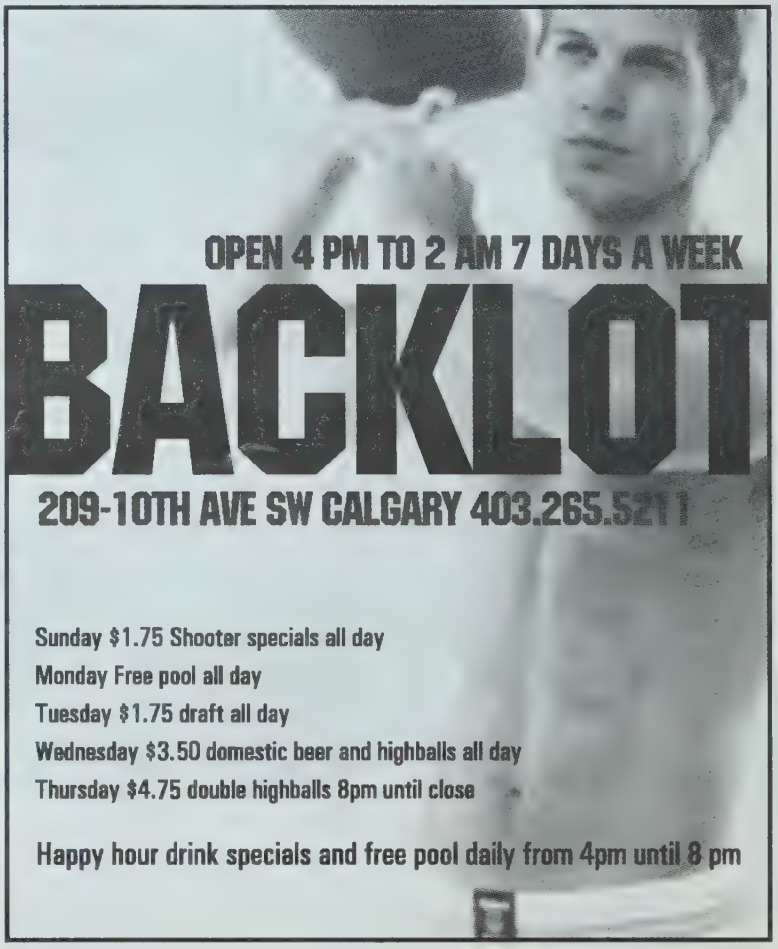


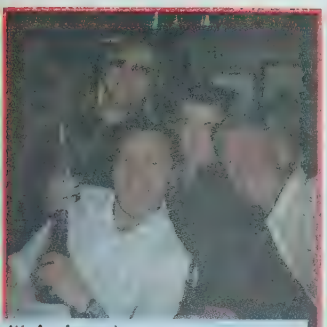
Above: Canadian übervixen Pam Anderson presents a cheque on behalf of the MAC AIDS Fund
Below: no explanation necessary!

Social calendars continue to fill in; with events ranging from the Leather Ball to jockstrap parties to the Toronto International Film Festival and L'Oreal Fashion Week, it promises to be a long, hot summer. Someone turn up the air conditioning. ▼

***Shaun Proulx is a Toronto writer. He contributes to* The Globe And Mail, *is Publisher and Editor of GayGuideToronto.com and is a feature contributor and columnist (Cocktail Confessions) with* Xtra.**

Photos in this story courtesy of GayGuideToronto.com

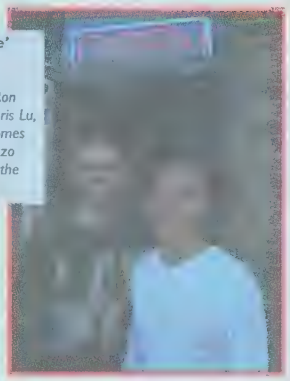




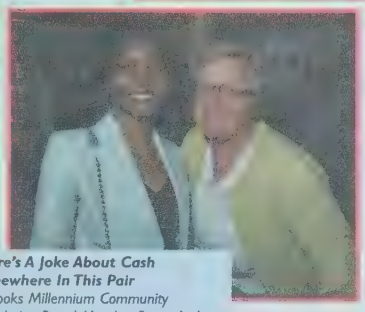
We Are Amused...
Yukking it up on the pool table—and obliterating a gorgeous La Fleur arrangement—are (clockwise) Outlooks Editor David Crosson, October 2004 cover model Josh, and La Fleur Co-owners John and Shamus.

ARGRA-Vation?
Hardly! These rodeo reps were on hand to help distribute the very first copies of Outlooks' 100th edition, with a cowboy on the cover, natch. From left are Delsing Stevenson, Heather Murray and Brent Zuber.

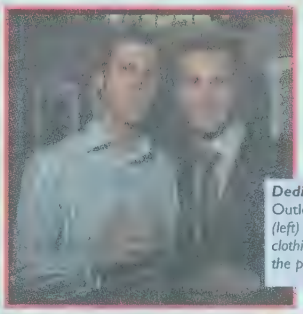
100th Edition Launch Party
MONEY-PENNIES



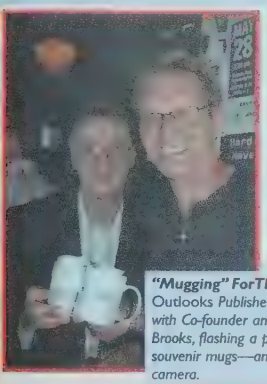
We've Got 'House' And 'Home" Covered...
Sojourn proprietor Ron Kellsey (left) and Chris Lu, of Sabal Crafted Homes indulge our paparazzo before heading into the party.



There's A Joke About Cash Somewhere In This Pair
Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation Board Member Penny Archer (left) and Roxanne, sister of Money-Pennies proprietor Lorrie Murphy, were all gossip 'n' grins at the big event.

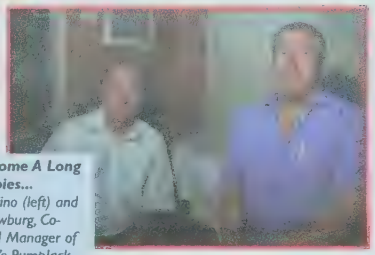


Dedicated Followers of Fashion
Outlooks Advertising Exec Cap Peters (left) with Garrett Dyck, of Derks clothiers, lent a touch of 'eye candy' to the proceedings.



"Mugging" ForTheCamera
Outlooks Publisher Roy Heale (left), with Co-founder and original editor Bill Brooks, flashing a pair of 100th edition souvenir mugs—and smiles—for the camera.

Political Party
Gay candidate from the past municipal election, Matt Urquhart (left), trades a few "war stories" with Calgary MLA and deputy leader of the provincial Liberals Dave Taylor.

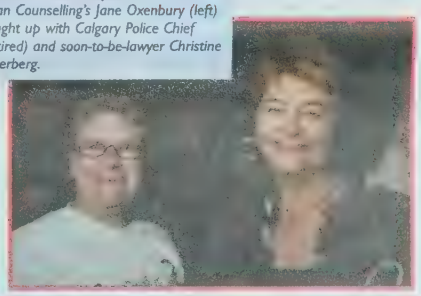


You've Come A Long Way, Babies...
Vince Marino (left) and Randy Newburg, Co-owner and Manager of Vancouver's PumpJack Pub, respectively, made the trek eastward to be a part of the festivities.

Having A Prime Time
Retired CFCN Television GM Bruce Nelson, and current CFCN GM Pat McDougall, "went live" to the 100th edition party

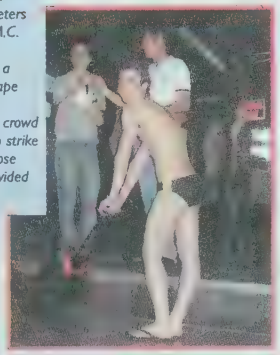
Locations, Locations, Locations
Calgary realtors Troy Gibson (left) and Rob Murray were troopers, managing to make it to all three installments of the Outlooks 100th edition parties.

To Serve And Respect
Edan Counselling's Jane Oxenbury (left) caught up with Calgary Police Chief (retired) and soon-to-be-lawyer Christine Silverberg.



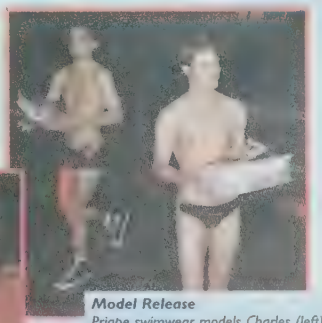
Outlooks 100th Edition
BACKLOT & METRO CLUB

Does This Make Me Look Gay?
Hmmmm—depends on whether you're talking about the hot pink shopping bag or the porn star! Allan (left), winner of the first door prize at Backlot, with adult movie performer Brad Rock.

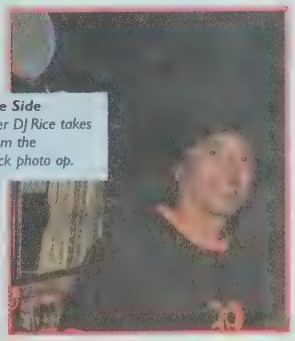


Numbers Game
Outlooks' Cap Peters (left) and event M.C. Bill Brooks draw another ticket for a door prize, as Priape swimwear model Michael gives the crowd a demo of how to strike an appropriate pose with the EQ3-provided luggage.

This Is My "Back Issue"
Interactive Male rep Maurino (right) gets close to pal Kevin, Outlooks' November 2004 cover model, for a bit of face—and embrace—time in front of the camera.

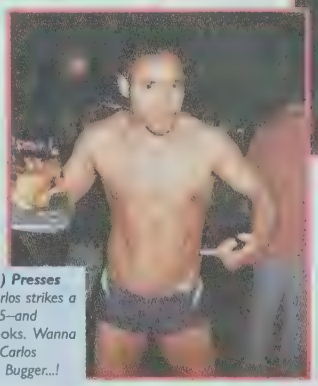


Model Release
Priape swimwear models Charles (left) and Michael, fresh in from Toronto, set out to distribute the new issue of Outlooks among the assembled partygoers. Now, if only all "paperboys" could look this good!

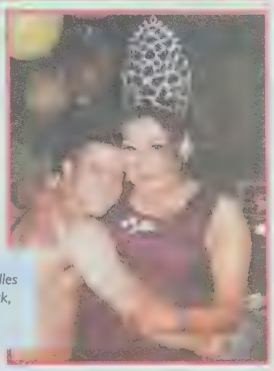


With Rice On The Side
Special guest spinner DJ Rice takes a moment away from the turntables for a quick photo op.

Planning an event in Calgary? Contact Cap at (403) 228-1157 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.
Photos By: Outlooks Staff



Hot Off The (Bench) Presses
January cover model Carlos strikes a pose with the June 2005–and 100th edition–of Outlooks. Wanna hear something nutty? Carlos doesn't work out. Ever. Bugger...!

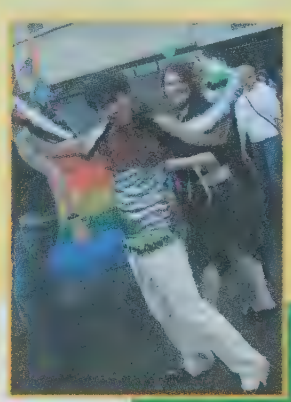


Beauty And The Beef
Calgary Empress Argentina cuddles up to newfound friend Brad Rock, special guest performer for the Metro Club bash.

POSTCARDS OF PRIDE

PRIDE PICNIC
LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA
Photos courtesy of Lethbridge GALA

HAMILTON, ONTARIO
PRIDE
VARIOUS EVENTS
Photos courtesy of Hamilton Pride



SASKATCHEWAN
PRIDE
VARIOUS EVENTS
Photos courtesy of Megan Morrison

continued opposite

from previous

EDMONTON, ALBERTA PRIDE PARADE
Photos courtesy of
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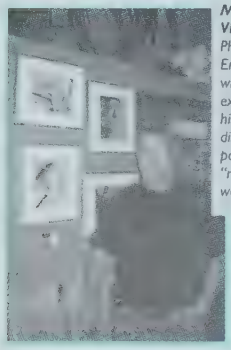
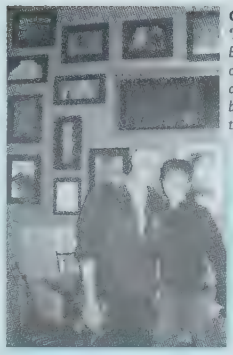
Expressions of Pride Art Show
MONEY PENNIES



Man Of Vision
Photographer Eric Rose with a few examples of his work, discreet portraits of a "mystery woman".



Can Two Be Called An 'Artist Colony'?
Expressions of Pride contributors Jordie English and Lisa Heinricks framed by their work and that of the other artists.

Do We Call This Performance Art?
Musicians Barbara Will and Jerald Blackstock were on hand to help Expressions... official kick-off "hit a high note".

Pride Parade
TIM AVERNETSW

Marshal-ing The Troops
Alderman and Deputy Mayor Diane Colley-Urquhart headed up the 15th annual parade as grand marshal, and if this picture is any indication, she was only too happy to do so.

Out On The Main Street
Backlot employees and friends took to 17th Avenue in full-on loud 'n' proud fashion, bringing a touch of Mardi Gras exuberance to the parade.

Roped Into Service
ARGRA was out in full force to help support Pride Calgary and drum up interest for the upcoming CRIR gay rodeo.

Parade
BACKLOT

"Court" Yard
Reps and supporters of the ISCCA were out in force at Backlot following their stint in the parade. Pictured here are Cammy Toe Stevens, Malibu Stacey, Diamond Angel, Sierra and Martini Rossi.

Street
TOMKINS PARK

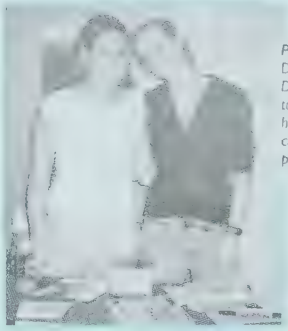
Is That A Spa Procedure Or Are You Happy To Se Us?
Whatever the cause, Spa Europa reps Jillian (left) and Jennifer seemed to be genuinely enjoying their time at the Tomkins Park Street Fair

Any More Balloons And That Thing Will Float!
Fortunately Priape had plenty of muscle on their parade entry to help keep things under control..

Keeping Things Wheel
(Pictured from left) Dominic, Maurino and Jared "played Vanna" for Street Fair visitors with the Interactive Male wheel, with proceeds going to Calgary's Beswick House hospice.

Smile And Show Some Leg...
The more extroverted of the two, Trixie (left) was only too happy to oblige, while pal Tyger just offered a grin.

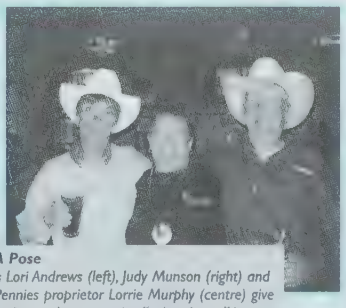
Prance
[illegible]



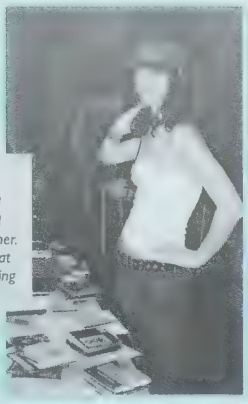
Prance-esses
Dance coordinators Jasmine and Drea seem quite happy with the turnout—then again, they might have had some inkling as to how cute they were gonna turn out in this picture, too!

Parade
MONEY PENNIES

Paris And Nicole, Eat Your Hearts Out!
Cheryl and Debbie pause from their serving frenzy at the Money-Pennies after-party so they can share a "blonde moment" with Outlooks' photographer.



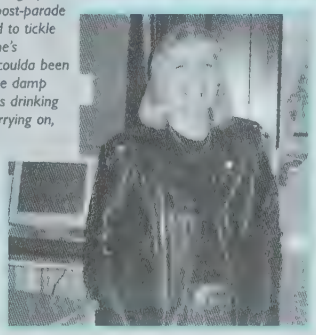
Strike A Pose
ARGRA's Lori Andrews (left), Judy Munson (right) and Money-Pennies proprietor Lorrie Murphy (centre) give new meaning to the expression "going tits up" in response to a patron's call to "lift those boobies up for the camera!". Congratulations on a job well done, ladies...



She Blooms At Night
DJ Lotusqueen, courtesy of CJSW radio, had things so under control she was able to take a break and indulge the Outlooks photographer. She looks great, too—must be that 'youth' thing everyone's always going on about...

Parade After Party
CALGARY EAGLE

How Do You Spell 'Relief'? A-f-t-e-r-p-a-r-t-y
Pride Calgary Chair Linda Craig (left) enjoys a few moments of personal time with partner Annette at the Eagle's post-parade party.



Lighting Up The Room
Working the door at the Calgary Eagle post-parade seemed to tickle Christine's fancy–coulda been all those damp revellers drinking and carrying on, too!

It's A Youthquake All Over Again
Pity there's no one in the photo old enough to know what that '60s term means. Or is it...? This is just a small sample of the crowd that turned out to celebrate their Pride in style.

Planning an event in Calgary? Contact Cap at (403) 228-1157 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.
Photos By: Outlooks Staff

Make your home away from home at a gay bed and breakfast.

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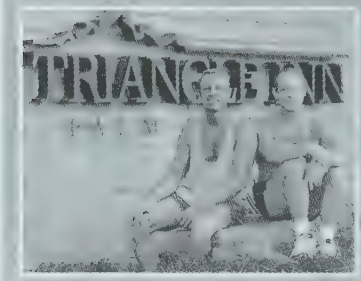
OUTLOOKS' FEATURE INN

The Triangle Inn Palm Springs



Romantic and relaxing, or fun and frisky. At the Triangle Inn Palm Springs, the choice is yours.

Recipient of Out and About's Editor's Choice award every year for the past five years, this inviting Palm Springs Preferred resort is a feast for the senses, with a special flair for Southern California hospitality. Hosts Stephen and Michael live on property, and do their very best to make sure a visit to the Triangle Inn Palm Springs will be better than ever imagined.

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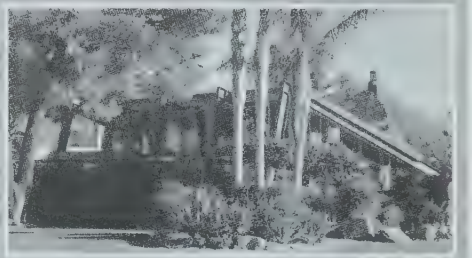

The Triangle Inn Palm Springs is proud to offer guests a choice of nine elegantly-appointed suites within the hotel grounds, plus an adjacent four-bedroom, two-bath house, with a second pool and jacuzzi (for groups of up to eight people).

All accommodations are tastefully appointed and feature all the comforts of home: fully equipped kitchens or kitchenettes, large baths with top quality linens, plenty of closet space, private reading libraries in every room, TVs, VCRs and stereos.

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Other amenities include king or queen beds, central heat and air, microwave ovens, coffeemakers, hairdryers, micromist cooling system throughout the property, off street parking, large video library and spectacular mountain views.

Above left: Hosts Stephen and Michael
Above right: The Triangle Inn Palm Springs in full view
Left: Guests enjoy an afternoon dip in the pool

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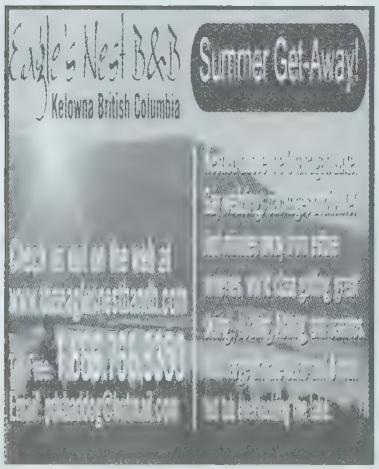

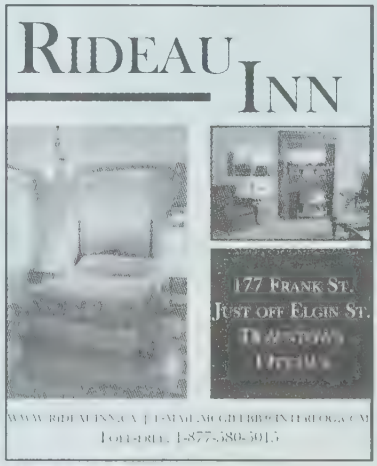

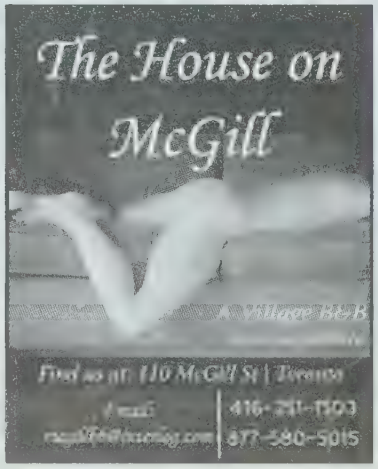

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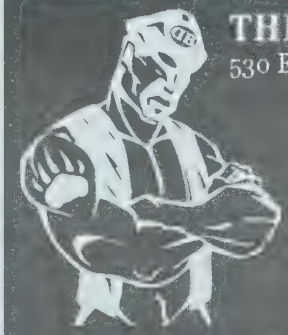

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Dear FREDDY

Dear Freddy,

Something just happened that made me think the guy I'm dating might not be right for me. He's totally gorgeous and all my friends are jealous of me, but I don't think I can let this one slide. Last week, we went out for brunch at a really nice restaurant. When his eggs Benedict arrived, he asked the waiter where the ketchup was—and there weren't any roasted potatoes or hash browns or *anything*, just the Benedict and some fruit. When the waiter said that they didn't even *have* ketchup, my bf made a big scene in front of everyone. Eventually a waitress went out to her car and got two of those little packets from when she had lunch at A&W and then he shut up. I was totally embarrassed—not to mention grossed-out by the creepy pinky-peach goo that the hollandaise became when he added ketchup to it! Am I being shallow or is this a break-up-able offense? He really is hot but I just can't get this out of my mind.

C.J.

Vancouver

Dear C.J.,

First of all, put your mind at ease: *of course* you're shallow. How do I know? When you told me about this magical boyfriend of yours, the only thing you mentioned was that he was gorgeous and that your friends were jealous of the guy you scored. Not that he was a great guy or that you had a lot in common, just that he was hot. Furthermore, you live in Vancouver, which was essentially built as an internment camp for shallow people—gay and straight—who nobody else in Canada wants to be around. But I digress... Back to the main issue: the ketchup. I'm actually less concerned about your boyf's tastes than I am with the fact that he "made a big scene" over something as insignificant as a condiment. Instead of graciously accepting the circumstances or trying to eat brunch without it, he had a hissy fit. My advice is, if it's bothering you enough to make you write to me, you aren't going to get over it and you might as well end the whole thing. Another bit of advice: find a better reason than ketchup to give him "when the axe falls" or people will think you're a bigger dick than he is.

Best of luck,

Fred

Dear Freddy,

I'm really concerned about a friend of mine. He never goes out or socializes in the clubs anymore and I don't think he even dates at all. When I ask him about sex he says it's "too much hassle" and "a lot of work". He's a really great guy and I'm worried that he's missing out or getting so set in his ways that he can't have fun anymore. Whenever the two of us talk about him being M.I.A. socially he says he's fine and quite happy to spend time alone. Any idea of how I can help?

Mark

Via e-mail

Dear Mark,

Well, you've expressed your concerns to him and he's told you that he's perfectly happy spending time on his own. Obviously if you see him enough outside of clubs, etc. to talk about his situation then he hasn't turned himself into a *total* recluse or shut-in or anything. Maybe he's just bored with the whole "scene". As far as sex goes, unless your friend is a double amputee, he's probably managing just fine on his own, compliments of the Internet, DVDs, jams and jellies, etc., etc. From the comments you shared it sounds like he's just had enough of casual sex with other people (I think there would be more cause for alarm if he said he wasn't interested in sex *at all*). This, for me, would be a cause for concern. The troubling thing here is that, when women swear off sex they get bitchy, and when men swear off sex they tend to get a bit pervy. If he starts raving about the wonderful porn he just watched that featured octogenarian heterosexuals wearing rubber Hallowe'en masks and nipple pasties, *then* I'd say it's time for a friendly intervention. Otherwise, leave the poor guy alone—he's probably just in a "quiet" phase. More than likely he'll come out and play when he's ready; in the meantime, I'm sure he's happy to stay home and play with himself with as little outside interference as possible.

Hope this helps,

Freddy ▼

Write to me, Dears

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Brazilian GWM, 43, masculine foot/tickle fetishist seeks 30-40 non-slim masculine bottom (blond +) to build 100% monogamous, lasting relationship
Marc
Box 3670
20001-970 Rio
Brazil

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REPLY # 0699

I am a young man a little over 40 years of age who would very much like to correspond with gay, bisexual or lesbian people from Canada, irrespective of sex or age. My chief interests are writing, reading books, listening to music, watching movies, going for long scenic walks (hiking), travelling, jogging, swimming, flora and fauna and nature in general. I have been hoping and wanting to correspond with people from Canada for years but have so far been quite unsuccessful to find gay pen-pals from that country. I now hope that via *Outlooks* luck will eventually be on my side. Please help me if you can as it would really make me so happy!
Alec Busch
Karpgatan 50
128 32 Skarpnack
Sweden

Canadian gays, don't miss this chance! Very nice-looking, 22-year old Ghanian bottom looking for a soul mate. Very serious and looking for a lasting relationship. No age limit, wiling to try anything. First come, first serve. write with photos to
Gibelery Abdul
Democracy Street 250
Box 225
Dormaa-Ahenko B/A
Ghana W/ Africa

Young Ghanain Black Cute, 28 years of age. Handsome, honest and serious in life seeks man for long-term relationship. Possible meeting. Please get to know me with your photo.
Emmanuel Dadzie
P.O. Box 1343
Sunyan, B-A
Ghana, W-A

Very cute, 30-year-old African guy with nice, attractive, smooth chocolate body. Very caring, romantic, affectionate, honest and kind. Would like to meet a man for a long-term relationship. Age and race are unimportant.
Write to:
Iddrisu Moro
Post Box 96
Sunyani B-A
Ghana, W-A

Gay partners wanted! 24-year-old African (Ghanaian) gay guy, black in colour with black hair. I enjoy hugging, kissing and am serious about finding a partner. Would like to hear from you!
Write: Emmanuel Boateng
Post Office Box 2356
Sunyani B-A
Ghana, W. Africa

Application for gay partners!
I'm a black Ghanaian gay guy, twenty-five years of age, looking for a gay partner. If you are interested please write back. I enjoy hugging and kissing with a serious partner.
Evans Osei Boateng
P.O. Box 299
Nsoatre, B/A
Ghana, West Africa
Also would like to exchange photos, magazines, cards and gifts
I speak English

24-year-old young man and Ghanian. Black in colour, 5 feet tall and black hair. I like football, travelling outside my town and country to interesting places like beaches and historical areas like castles
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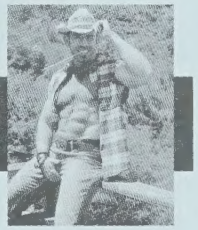

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Featuring:Corbin Michaels, Mario Cruz, Jason Crew, Dick James, Johnny Law, Alex Bana, Dillon Press, Sean Steele, Jack Sanders

Running Time: 95 minutes

Sometimes you happen upon an adult movie with a slight twist—and *Squirt* is *definitely* one of those films. It's all about size—but not in the usual way: this time it revolves around height, not length or girth. Director Jett Blakk brings together some of the shortest and tallest hot gay studs for interesting antics in the office and around the workplace.

The tone is set by 5' 6" Corbin Michaels asking co-worker, 6' 0" Sean Steele, if he is getting the promotion he deserves for his hard work. He is really angry when he finds out it's all about his height and not his work ethic and knowledge. Corbin storms out, leaving Sean alone with the office cleaners, 5' 8" Mario Cruz, and 5' 7" Alex Bana, who decide to take him on and prove that height is not that important. These hot-blooded Latinos dominate in this three-way lesson about height and its relevance—notwithstanding the unusual use of phonebooks!

Meanwhile, a very angry Corbin confronts 6' 4" Jack Sanders about the promotion and Jack is quite surprised when he finds a very aggressive Corbin dominating the action. Soon, the taller and more mature Jack is taking a pounding from the younger, shorter boy with a huge toy. It's a lesson that Jack won't easily forget while sitting in his office chair!

Still not totally "satisfied", everyone is pressuring 6' 1" Dillon (AKA "The Boss") to give the job to Corbin, and 5' 8" Johnny law tries hard convince Dillon that his friend is the man to promote. In the process, Johnny works hard with a foot-long ruler to prove his point, and eventually the boss gives Corbin the job, but only under considerable duress.

In his new capacity, Corbin is soon put to the test with potential new clients Jason Crew (6' 1") and Dick James (6' 3"). Eager to impress, Corbin assures Jason and James that he can handle both them *and* their business. They are dubious at first but quickly see why his talents deserve their attention. When these three hot young guys get down to business, Corbin dominates and prove that size really matters—so much so that even massive Jason Crew is impressed. Corbin pounds away to strike a deal and land the business, proving once and for all that the little guy can make it big, in and out of the corporate world. Think you want to "size these guys up" for yourself? Then check out *Squirt*, a film that levels the field for all horny players.

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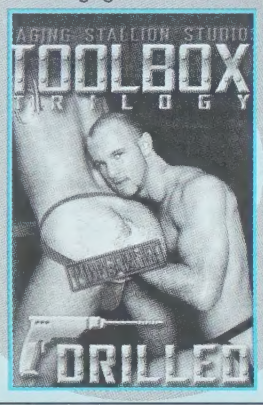
RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★ *SET:* ★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★★ *STORY:* ★★★
ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

Drilled

From: Raging Stallion Studios



Featuring: Wilhelm Dragon, Shane Rollins, Brendan Austen, Sean Steele, Simon Cox, Robert Black, Eric Evans, Jerek

Running Time: 118 minutes

I doubt it'd make the cut for HGTV's "reno night" lineup, but if you like your hardcore porn hard right to its core, then *Drilled* is likely a movie for you. The first installment in Raging Stallion's Toolbox Trilogy, this flick is not for the faint of heart. Featuring the kind of guys who fist first (among other things) and ask questions later, *Drilled* is definitely not geared towards the vanilla set (although I hate to even mention the word 'chocolate' given the nature of their onscreen antics!).

The action gets going with Shane Rollins introducing a greased 'n' gloved hand into pal Wilhelm Dragon's nether regions, much to both of their evident delight, judging from Dragon's moaning and grunts of encouragement. Soon we see dragon inserting a gleaming steel speculum in preparation for quick anal "visit" from topman Rollins, an activity that seems rather pointless from the top's perspective (the phrase "throwing a wiener down an alleyway" comes to mind), but an interesting twist, nonetheless. Visually, this is a pretty great scene, with Wilhelm Dragon perched halfway up a wall and then on his back on a table with the skill of a tree frog, sporting a red jockstrap and armbands that match the rest of the industrial set perfectly.

Next up is a bit of giant dildo action courtesy of accommodating bottom Simon Cox and a very helpful Brendan Austen, who seems only too happy to assist Cox with this distraction. Again, the scene is quite stunning, especially with the contrast between a flesh-coloured dildo and the eager bottom's ebony ass. This is followed by a butt plug on the end of a power drill and a bit of hands on (hands *in*, actually) action, courtesy of Austen.

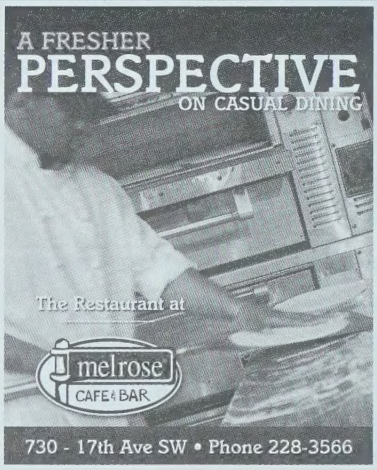
The third "installment" (literally!) starts with a bit of solo action with eager dildo jockey Sean Steel, whose toys of choice grow progressively larger, eventually including his own fist. This scene is followed by muscular topman Eric Evans "lending a hand" to help pleasure his mate, Jerek, who occupies a steel cage throughout most of their scene together. (This bottom proves to be quite an acrobat, spending most of the session in the most improbable—yet accommodating—positions.)

In the end, so to speak, *Drilled* takes a cue from Broadway and winds the whole thing up with a noisy, four-way grand finale featuring Messrs. Evans, Dragon, Steel and Zeusboy '99 Robert Black. Even if you're not a fan of hardcore fisting action, you've gotta hand it (couldn't resist) to director Chris Ward: *Drilled* is Crisco-slick, stylish and very skillfully shot. The performers chosen—whether solo or in pairs—all possess a distinct onscreen charisma, making the end result (sorry!) stand out in what can often be a crowd of indulgent, low-buck garbage. Relatively speaking, *Drilled* is a winner from start to finish.

Review sponsored by www.MaleDVD.ca, Canada's largest online XXX gay DVD rental service

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★ *SET:* ★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★ *STORY:* ★★★
ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★



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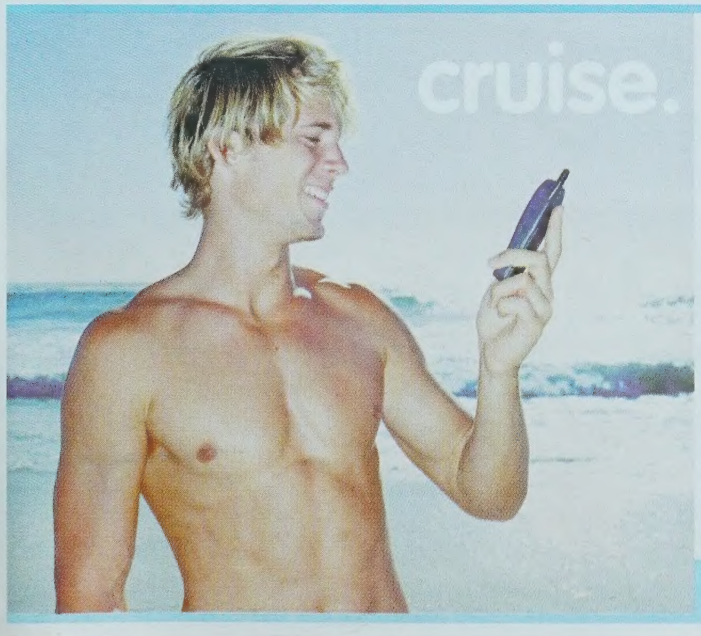

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